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COUNTRY LIFE

OCTOBER 5, 1943

ONE SHILLING & SIXPENCE

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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCIV. No. 2442

NOVEMBER 5, 1943

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

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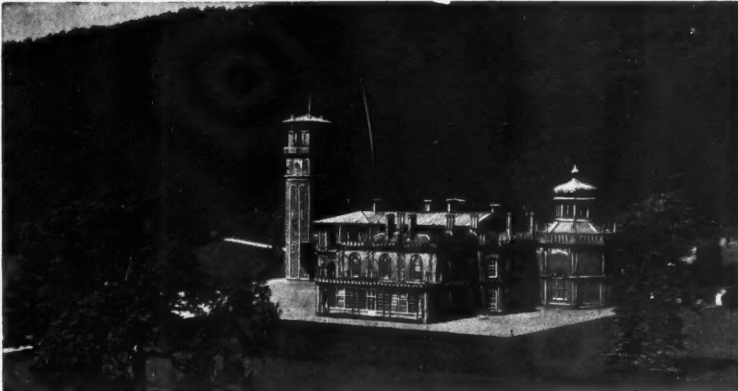
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WINKWORTH & CO.

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SUSSEX

A mile from railway station, 2 miles from a small town, and under 10 miles from Lewes



AN ATTRACTIVE OLD RESIDENCE. Restored and modernised just before the war, occupying a lovely position with good views. 3 reception rooms, excellent domestic offices (including staff sitting room and pantry), 6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity. Central heating. Fitted basins in 3 bedrooms. Garage. Total area is 20 ACRES, including kitchen garden, paddock and woodland.

FOR SALE. PRICE FREEHOLD £6,000 (Usual Valuations).

Owner's Agents: WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

FREEHOLD HOTEL IN 27½ ACRES

INCLUDING THE WHOLE OF THE EQUIPMENT AS A GOING CONCERN.

SITUATED NEAR A TOWN IN WILTS AND WITHIN A SHORT WALK OF A HALT. The accommodation includes suite of reception rooms, including billiards room and bathroom, 35 bedrooms and 8 bathrooms. Cottage, lodge and garages. Main electric light. Unlimited water. 2 "Aga" cookers in the kitchen. THE GROUNDS INCLUDE A HARD TENNIS COURT, A GRASS COURT, KITCHEN GARDEN WITH 2 GLASSHOUSES, ALL EXTENDING TO 4½ ACRES, AND ADJOINING ARE 23 ACRES OF WOODLAND.—Detailed particulars of: Messrs. WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1, who will make the necessary appointment to view on application.

BERKS

Ascot and Windsor district. High ground. Magnificent views.



A WELL-FITTED MODERN HOUSE, on an old site with grand old cedars and other trees. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, loggia. Main water, gas and electricity. Main drainage. Garage for 2 cars. Gardens of 3½ ACRES, including kitchen garden. Personally inspected and recommended by the WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, London, W.1.

FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY



SOUTH AYRSHIRE

Sea 3 Miles. County Town 7 Miles.

THE MANSION HOUSE stands in the centre of the estate about 200 feet above sea level, facing South-east, and is approached by a drive with a lodge at entrance. The Residence contains entrance hall, 4 public rooms, school and business rooms, 11 principal bed and 3 dressing rooms, 5 bathrooms, 5 bedrooms for servants; public room and bathroom.

Main electric light. Private water supply. Drainage recently overhauled and in good order.

Garage for 6 cars. Dwelling-house to accommodate two separate tenants, with separate bathrooms.

Lawns, hard tennis court. Walled kitchen garden. Market garden land, plantations.

2 Sound Dairy Farms and 3 Cottages let on Lease.

NEARLY 400 ACRES FOR SALE

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (39,813)

WILTS—HANTS BORDERS

6 miles from a Junction and Market Town.

A MIXED FARM OF 300 ACRES

GOOD FARMHOUSE, facing south and standing 350 ft. above sea level. Accommodation: 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 3 attic rooms, bathroom, etc.

Company's water. Electric light to house and buildings.

Stabling for 8. Garage. Range of farm buildings, cowshed for 50. 2 Cottages. The soil is a strong loam on chalk and grows good crops. There are 145 Acres of pasture carrying about 100 head of cattle. The woods and belts provide good coverts for game.

PRICE FREEHOLD £15,000

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (40,242)

KENT—Between TONBRIDGE & ASHFORD

Situated near a station and about 6 miles from a Market Town.

MIXED FARM OF 200 ACRES

RED BRICK FARMHOUSE, with 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, bathroom.

Companies' electric light and water. Ample Farmbuildings. Tyings for 60 cows. Extensive Barns. 9 Cottages.

The land grows heavy crops of Kentish Wild White Clover. About 50 ACRES of fertile arable.

PRICE FREEHOLD £11,000

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (31,660)

SOUTH WALES

IN BEAUTIFUL UNDULATING COUNTRY, WITH 2½ MILES OF SALMON AND TROUT FISHING. Swansea 45 miles. Cardiff 80 miles.

Occupying a fine position 400 ft. up, facing South and West. A RESIDENCE erected of local stone with tiled roof, at a cost of about £30,000. It is approached by drive and contains: Entrance hall, 4 reception, 9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Complete new electric lighting and heating system installed in 1938.

Excellent water supply. Modern drainage. Garage for 4.

DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS divided by yew hedges, with gardens, ponds, swimming pool, kitchen and fruit garden.

About 4½ ACRES

Additional Woodland up to 98 Acres, if required.

Salmon and Trout Fishing by arrangement in a lovely stretch of river with at least 5 Salmon Pools.

Sole Agents:

Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (39,598)



Mayfair 3771
(10 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

Telegrams:
Galleries, Wesdo, London

Reading 4441
Regent 0293/3377

NICHOLAS

(Established 1882)

1, STATION ROAD, READING; 4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1

Telegrams:
"Nicholas, Reading"
"Nichonyer, Piccy, London"

FRESH IN THE MARKET

HAMPSHIRE

AN AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING ESTATE

EXTENDING TO

1,504 ACRES

COMPRISING 1,021 ACRES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND, 387 ACRES OF WOODLANDS, A GENTLEMAN'S MEDIUM-SIZED HOUSE WITH ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES. 5 COTTAGES. SHOOTING IN HAND.

RECOGNISED AS ONE OF THE BEST SHOOTING ESTATES IN THE COUNTY

FOR SALE

Full particulars of Messrs. PINK & ARNOLD, Land Agents, Westgate Chambers, Winchester; and Messrs. NICHOLAS, Auctioneers, 1, Station Road, Reading.

3 MOUNT ST.
LONDON, W.1.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grosvenor
1032-33

THE PROPERTY BARGAIN OF THE YEAR BEECH-CLAD CHILTERN HILLS

800 feet up. Panoramic views. Midway between High Wycombe and Princes Risborough.



THIS UNUSUALLY CHARMING HOUSE

erected in 1920, approached by long drive.

3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, fitted bathroom. Main electricity, private water supply. Certified drainage. Garage. Out-buildings.

GARDENS and WOODLANDS.

FIVE ACRES, FREEHOLD.
ONLY £3,000

JUST PLACED IN SALE MARKET AT
EXTREMELY REASONABLE PRICES.

ADJACENT HERTFORDSHIRE COMMON with Golf Course (500 feet up) on bus route to St. Albans and Harpenden. ARTISTIC HOUSE OF MODERN DESIGN (brick and half-timbered), leaded windows, 3 reception, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity. Private water supply. Garage. Gardens and orchard. About ONE ACRE. FREEHOLD £4,000.

ESSEX-SUFFOLK BORDER. Sudbury 6 miles, Clare 4 miles. Overlooking Stour Valley. BEAUTIFUL SEVENTEENTH CENTURY TIMBER-FRAMED HOUSE, restored and modernised. Fascinating interior. 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, bathroom. Abundant water. Electricity, radiators. Garage. Gardens nearly THREE ACRES. Picturesque Old Cottage (let). PRICE FREEHOLD £3,250, or £3,050 without the Cottage.

HERTS-ESSEX BORDER, between Bishop's Stortford and Harlow. REALLY UNIQUE SMALL HOUSE designed by Architect in 1910 and considerably enlarged in 1933. 3 reception, 6 bedrooms (with basins), 2 bathrooms. Main electricity. Unfailing water supply. Garage. Children's playground. Gardens, orchard and padcock. About FOUR ACRES. FREEHOLD ONLY £3,750.

NO SUPERIOR COTTAGES, EACH LET AT £48 P.A., AND A FURTHER FIVE ACRES COULD BE PURCHASED IF REQUIRED.

Owner's Sole Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

(Regent 8222, 15 lines)

Telegrams: "Selanlet, Picoy, London"



KENT

In a village 6 miles South of Maidstone. Near well-known Public School. On bus route. Glorious views.

AN INTERESTING OLD HOUSE



WITH MANY UNIQUE FEATURES.

4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, servants' hall, and good offices. All main services. Central heating. Garage and cottage.

Terraced grounds with tennis lawn; well-stocked kitchen garden; range of glass, etc.

ABOUT 2 ACRES
PRICE FREEHOLD £4,000

POSSESSION JULY 1, 1944

Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel. REG. 8222.) (E.48,507)

Favourite NORTH-WEST RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

WITHIN 10 MILES OF TOWN

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

One of the most beautifully appointed MODERN RESIDENCES now in the market



Oak panelled hall, dining room and lounge opening to loggia. Full-size billiards room. 7 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting room. Central heating. All main services. Hand basins in principal bedrooms.

DOUBLE GARAGE. CHARMING GROUNDS OF NEARLY 1 1/4 ACRES. EXTENSIVE LAWNS. HARD TENNIS COURT, Etc.

Sole Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel. REG. 8222.) (E.45,697)

SURREY—VIRGINIA WATER

Lovely position. Southern slope. 1 mile from station.

ADJOINING AND OVERLOOKING THE FAMOUS WENTWORTH GOLF COURSE

EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE (IN THE GEORGIAN STYLE)



Entrance and lounge halls. 3 reception rooms, billiards room, 2 staircases, 9 bedrooms, 4 well-equipped bathrooms, servants' hall.

Companies' electric light and water. Central heating. Good repair. Luxurious fittings. Garages for 3.

Cottage for chauffeur. VERY LOVELY BUT INEXPENSIVE GARDENS with kitchen garden, orchard, paddock. In all about

6 ACRES

PRICE £12,500 FREEHOLD

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel. REG. 8222.) (E.34,480)

LUXURY AND REFINEMENT

PRESENT-DAY DOMESTIC DIFFICULTIES OVERCOME

One of the most complete and extravagantly fitted MODERN RESIDENCES

within a radius of 15 miles from Town. Backing on to Golf Course.

EXCELLENT TRANSPORT FACILITIES TO LONDON BRIDGE AND VICTORIA



Accommodation arranged on two floors. Oak panelled lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, billiards or dance room, miniature cocktail bar, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms and model domestic offices.

Comprehensive central heating and hot water system, oil fueled and thermostatically controlled. Basins in bedrooms.

Handsome fireplaces.

Garage for 2 cars.

DELIGHTFUL GARDEN WITH HARD TENNIS COURT, ORCHARD, KITCHEN GARDEN, ETC.

IN ALL ABOUT 2 ACRES

Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel. REG. 8222.) (E.51,103)

RURAL SUFFOLK

About 2 1/2 miles from Saxmundham. Near pretty village. Good sporting district.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE NICELY SITUATED

Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms, servants' bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, staff sitting room and offices. Main electricity. Water pumped electrically. Modern drainage. Garage.

Farm buildings. Cottage. Fine gardens designed by a well-known landscape gardener. Rock and water garden. Productive kitchen garden. Orchard.

Paddocks and about 40 acres under cultivation.

53 ACRES IN ALL

PRICE FREEHOLD £7,000. FOR POST-WAR OCCUPATION



Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel. REG. 8222.) (E.30,522)

CHARMING COTTAGE OF SPECIAL APPEAL TO GOLFERS

WEST HERTS

RURAL SITUATION adjoining the MID-HERTS GOLF CLUB, close to bus route. 3 1/2 miles Harpenden.

PICTURESQUE SMALL HOUSE

with lounge about 27 ft. by 14 ft.

4 bedrooms (3 with basins), bathroom.

Garage. Company's electric light and power.

Water pumped electrically. Modern drainage.

PLEASANT SMALL GARDEN.

PRICE £2,850



Recommended by Sole Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel. REG. 8222.) (E.2161)

KENT

In delightful surroundings. 8 miles from Tunbridge Wells. 2 miles main line station.

A CHARMING COUNTRY RESIDENCE

(Part XVth Century)

In lovely sylvan setting. Southern aspect.

4 reception rooms, billiards room, winter garden, 2 staircases, 12 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, servants' hall, good cellarage.

Company's water. Electric light. Central heating. Garages. Stabling. 2 picturesque cottages.

Small stream. Moat of nearly one acre stocked with fish.

EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-TIMBERED GROUNDS.

WALLED KITCHEN GARDEN, NUTTERY, PASTURE AND WOODLANDS, IN ALL OVER 43 ACRES. **PRICE £8,500 FREEHOLD**

Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel. REG. 8222.) (E.48,501)

SUSSEX

About 4 miles to the North of Polegate Junction on the main Lewes-Eastbourne Line

FOR SALE

A XVth CENTURY HOUSE

MODERNISED IN PERFECT KEEPING WITH THE PERIOD

It commands an uninterrupted view of the Downs and the Sea in the distance.

Lounge hall, 4 sitting rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating throughout. Company's electric light and power.

GARAGE.

OUTBUILDINGS.

HARD TENNIS COURT, LARGE PAVILION, SUMMER HOUSE, KITCHEN GARDEN, ORCHARD, WOODLAND. IN ALL ABOUT

7 ACRES

PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD

AT PRESENT REQUISITIONED BUT NOT OCCUPIED

Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel. REG. 8222.) (E.49,522)

Regent
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE ST.,
PICCADILLY, W.1

OXON AND BERKS BORDERS

In a delightful old world village at the foot of the Chiltern Hills—

AN ATTRACTIVE
OLD HOUSE OF CHARACTER

containing hall, 4 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main electricity. Garage.

Pleasure gardens, orchard, etc., bounded by a stream and extending to ABOUT 2 ACRES.

PRICE FREEHOLD ONLY £3,500

Full details from OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (M2385)

SOMERSET

In lovely surroundings on the Southern slopes of the Mendip Hills.

A BEAUTIFUL STONE-BUILT JACOBAN
REPLICA

erected about 50 years ago regardless of expense and to the designs of a well-known architect.

reception, billiards room, 11 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Main electricity and gas. Central heating.

5 Cottages. Stabling. Garage.

Farming well-timbered gardens sloping to a river. 2 lakes (one stocked with trout). Hard and grass tennis courts.

Cricket ground, with pavilion. Meadowland. In all

ABOUT 17 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Full details from:

OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,371)

NEAR BERKHAMSTED

In the centre of beautiful country, with walks and riding over about 4,000 acres of National Trust land.

The attractive small modern House

known as

RIDGEWAY HOUSE, ASHRIDGE PARK

containing hall, lounge, dining room, loggia, 4 bedrooms (3 with lavatory basins h. & c.), bathroom.

Main water, electric light and power.

Garage. Loose box.

Pleasure gardens, kitchen garden, paddock, etc.,

In all

ABOUT 3 ACRES

For SALE by AUCTION by OSBORN & MERCER at the London Auction Mart, 155, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4, on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16 (unless previously Sold privately.)

Solicitors: Messrs. SIMMONDS & JAMES, CHURCH, RACKHAM & Co., 4-5, Staple Inn, W.C.2.

Auctioneers: OSBORN & MERCER, 28b, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W.1 (Regent 4304).

BETWEEN MELTON MOWBRAY AND OAKHAM

Situate over 400 ft. above sea level in a delightful old village within convenient reach of main line stations.

AN ATTRACTIVE RED BRICK HOUSE

containing drawing room (40 ft. x 24 ft.), 2 other reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main services. Central heating.

Groom's cottage (with 5 beds, 2 reception, 2 baths) 2 other cottages, 3 garages, stable yard with range of loose boxes, cowhouses, etc.

Matured gardens and pastureland, in all

ABOUT 8 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,500

Full details from OSBORN & MERCER, as above.

READING AND NEWBURY

Situate right in the heart of beautiful country near the Downs.

A DELIGHTFUL HOUSE OF CHARACTER
principally Tudor with a modern addition.

Square hall, 2 large and 3 small reception rooms, 9 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.

Main Services. Central Heating.

Garage. Large barn. Useful outbuildings.

Fine modernised Cottage or secondary Residence, 3 other Cottages (2 let)

Pleasure gardens, tennis lawn, vegetable garden, large paddock, larch wood, etc., in all

ABOUT 10 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Inspected and recommended by OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,444)

44, ST. JAMES'S
PLACE, S.W.1

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

AGENTS FOR THE HOME COUNTIES, THE SHIRES, AND SPORTING COUNTIES GENERALLY

Regent
0911

WEST SUSSEX COAST

FOR SALE AS AN INVESTMENT WITH POSSESSION AFTER WAR. INCOME £200 PER ANNUM. PRICE £5,250. ANY REASONABLE OFFER CONSIDERED.



THIS INTERESTING RESIDENCE. DATING FROM XVIIIth CENTURY. Features: Queen Anne staircase, oak panelling, gallery hall. Near village and bus service. Hall and 3 sitting rooms, 8 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity. Coy.'s water. Gas. Central heating. Independent hot water. Main drainage. Cottage. Garage and other buildings. Particularly attractive gardens, meadow, etc. About 6 ACRES in all. Owner's Agents: JAMES STYLES AND WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 18,143)

FOR OCCUPATION AFTER
THE WAR

NOW PRODUCING A SATISFACTORY INCOME

In a very beautiful district within easy reach of Tonbridge main line and Sevenoaks with its frequent express train service.

A DELIGHTFUL GEORGIAN RESIDENCE, COMPLETELY MODERNISED, well situated with Southern aspect. The reception rooms, comprising drawing room, dining room, morning room and library, are beautifully proportioned, and, with the central hall, have parquet floors throughout; the library is oak panelled; there is also a large room built out suitable, either as play room or billiards room. There are 4 principal bedrooms, all fitted with basins; large dressing room; 2 principal bathrooms. Above are 3 principal bedrooms and 4 secondary or maids' rooms and bathroom. ALL MAIN SERVICES, WATER, GAS, ELECTRICITY AND DRAINAGE. Double garage. Gardener's cottage and other outbuildings. The grounds are finely timbered, and, with the orchard and paddock, comprise about 8 ACRES. Additional land up to about 27 ACRES as desired.

Details and photographs with JAMES STYLES AND WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R. 13,252)

SALISBURY AREA



IN A GOOD SPORTING DISTRICT

Rural surroundings, high situation, lovely views, sunny aspect. Hall and 3 sitting rooms, 5 bedrooms (lavatory basins), dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity and power. Central heating. Telephone. Two garages. Nice gardens and 2 paddocks.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Owner's Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R. 20,524)

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY ESTATES AND HOUSES
SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1. REGENT 2481

A KENTISH VILLAGE HOUSE

6 MILES S.W. OF MAIDSTONE. Fronting on to a quiet and quaint street. Lovely terraced gardens on south side overlooking marvellous view. The house is of intriguing antiquity (black and white) with 4 reception, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. All main services. Garage. Pretty cottage. A wonderful bargain at **£4,000 FREEHOLD.** Possession June, 1944.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

SUSSEX-HANTS BORDERS

Between Petersfield and Midhurst

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE with labour-saving devices. 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, electricity. Range of farm buildings. Garage. Stabling, etc. Extremely pretty gardens, plenty of fruit and vegetables, and large paddock. **6 ACRES. FREEHOLD. £3,625.**—Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

GUILDFORD, SURREY

Picked Position on Warwick's Bench with a grand view. **MODERN HOUSE.** 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, basins in bedrooms. Central heating. Main services. Garage. Easily run garden **1/2 ACRE. £4,750 FREEHOLD.** Smaller house same area sold recently for slightly less.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

SOMETHING EXCEPTIONAL IN SURREY

A RARITY IN TO-DAY'S MARKET. Between HARLEY and WORTH FOREST (38 minutes London). **QUEEN ANNE FARMHOUSE,** modernised regardless of cost. 3 reception, cosy and hospitable cocktail bar, oak floors and panelling, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Aga cooker. Central heating. Main services. Garage. Typical country garden and paddock, long drive approach. **5 ACRES.** Owing to cost owner cannot take lot less than **£9,500.**—Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

3 MILES LEWES, SUSSEX

FOR POST-WAR OCCUPATION. ONLY £2,500 with 5 1/2 ACRES. (Leasehold with 62 years to run, ground rent £21 p.a.) Lovely view Firle Beacon and Downs. 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. A house of charming character. Main electricity and water. Garage. Terraced gardens and 2 grass orchards.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

NORTH CORNWALL, NEAR ST. IVES BAY

QUEEN ANNE HOUSE with later addition. View over glorious wooded valley, 1 mile sea. 3 reception, 6 bedrooms (fitted basins), bathroom. Main electricity. Garage. (2 Cottages let.) Walled gardens, orchard, and paddock. **4 1/2 ACRES. £4,000 FREEHOLD.**—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

6 MILES SOUTH OF CHICHESTER

In a pretty village.

SMALL QUEEN ANNE MANOR HOUSE in perfect decorative repair. 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services. Garage. Charming walled-in gardens and **5 1/2 ACRES. £4,750.**—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

TUDOR HOUSE, CENTRAL BERKSHIRE

TOGETHER WITH TWO SECONDARY HOUSES and TWO COTTAGES. Principal residence has 4 reception, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Main services. Faces village green in triangle Newbury, Pangbourne, and Reading. Garage. Attractive gardens, woodland, and paddock. **10 ACRES.** Owner asks **£9,800** but would consider offer.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

CIRCA 1700

7 miles Banbury, 1 1/2 hours London

EXCELLENT STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE, 700 ft. up and facing due South. 3 reception, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Electricity. 5-car garage. Range of stabling. 2 Cottages. Extremely picturesque gardens, swimming pool, kitchen garden, orchard, and **80 ACRES** of land, in hand. Possession three months after cessation hostilities. Unique opportunity.—Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1

Grosvenor 2861. Telegrams "Cornishmen, London"

£5,000 FREEHOLD. 5 ACRES.

WILTS. on outskirts of village, near foot of DOWNS. 300 feet up. **A CHARMING GEORGIAN RESIDENCE** in good condition and easy to run. Hall, reception, bathroom, 5 bedrooms. Main electricity, water and drainage. Telephone. Central heating. 2 garages, extensive stabling. Delightful garden, walled kitchen garden, orchard and paddock.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (18,359)

WES BERKS. 20 ACRES. 250ft.

bus service passes. Charming **STONE COUNTRY HOUSE.** 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 8 bedrooms. Main electricity. Telephone. Large garage. 5 loose boxes. Lodge, grounds and pasture. Freehold.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (13,347)

DEVON. 5,000 GUINEAS.

MODERNISED COUNTRY HOUSE. 7 bedrooms (2 h. & c.), 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms. Central heating. Aga. Main electricity. Garage, stables.

3 1/2 ACRES

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (10,539)

SUSSEX HILLS

Between Tunbridge Wells and the Coast.



LITTLE PEANS, ROBERTS-

BRIDGE. — A delightfully

situated **MODERN RESIDENCE** (replica of a XVIIIth Century Sussex Farmhouse), approached by carriage drive and standing in finely timbered grounds. 8 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, labour-saving domestic offices. Central heating. Fitted lavatory basins (h. & c.) Companies' electricity, water. Telephone. Modern drainage. Garage for 2 cars. Outbuildings, greenhouse. Lovely flower and rose gardens, kitchen garden. Charming woodlands, planted flowering shrubs, 9 Acres.

For SALE by AUCTION at TUNBRIDGE WELLS on NOVEMBER 26. Particulars and Conditions of Sale: GEERING & COLYER, Auctioneers, Hawkhurst, Kent.

Grosvenor 1553
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,
68, Victoria Street,
Westminster, S.W.1A PRACTICALLY PERFECT RESIDENCE 12 MILES S.W. OF LONDON
PRIVATE GATE TO GOLF COURSE

CHARMING GARDENS comprising lawns, kitchen garden, orchard, nuttree, and GAZE'S ALL-WEATHER HARD TENNIS COURT, in all ABOUT 2 ACRES.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Confidently recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount St., W.1. (D1201)

Entrance hall, cocktail bar, lounge, dining room, study, billiard room, all with polished oak floors. Excellent offices. Maids' sitting room. 7 bed and dressing rooms, two with fitted basins. 3 beautifully fitted bathrooms, 1 with enclosed shower. The whole accommodation, which is arranged for a minimum of labour, is on two floors only. Main Services. Central heating with oil-fired boiler with thermo control. Large double garage.

Close bus stop
**MODERNISED
XVth-CENTURY
RESIDENCE**

Lounge hall, 2 reception, loggia, 7 bed (fitted basins), 2 baths. Model domestic offices with servants' sitting room.

Main electric light, main water, modern drainage. Central heating.

FINE OLD SUSSEX BARN, OLD-WORLD GARDENS, IN ALL ABOUT 4½ ACRES.

Outskirts of village. A little show place.
IN WEST SUSSEX**FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**

All particulars of Sole Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (D 330)

5, MOUNT ST.,
LONDON, W.1.

CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines).
Established 1875.**WILTSHIRE**
Near Malmesbury.

A MODERN STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE. 300 ft. above sea level, in matured grounds, 4 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Electric light. Central heating. Garages and stabling. Farmery and 3 cottages. Pasture and arable land.

ABOUT 160 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

GOLF AND HUNTING.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1.

SURREY

Near Sutton and Cheam Stations. Half an hour by train to London.

EXCELLENTLY DESIGNED IN THE TUDOR STYLE. 3 reception, 9 bed and dressing rooms (6 with h. & c.), 2 bathrooms, 2 staircases. Co.'s electricity, gas and water. Central heating. Garage. Tennis court. Orchard and kitchen garden.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD. PRICE REDUCED

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,308)

BUCKS

Great Missenden 3 miles.

The RESIDENCE, designed by a well-known artist 35 years ago, is placed on high ground and part of a large estate.

Lounge Hall, 3 reception rooms, kitchen and "Aga" cooker, 9 bedrooms, bathroom.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND TELEPHONE.

CENTRAL HEATING RECENTLY INSTALLED

GARAGE. STABLING AVAILABLE.

GROUND, INCLUDING KITCHEN GARDEN,

IN ALL ABOUT

4 ACRES

TO LET UNFURNISHED

FOR 3, 5, OR 7 YEARS AT A REASONABLE RENT

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OXFORDSHIRE

¾ mile from Henley Station.

MODERN RESIDENCE, pleasantly situated on high ground with fine views. Near bus service. 3 reception, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Company's electricity, gas and water. Central heating. Garage and outbuildings. Hard tennis court, lawns. Fruit and kitchen gardens. **ABOUT 2 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.**

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,362)

SURREY

2½ miles Oxley Station.

A GEORGIAN RESIDENCE, secluded, near a small town and adjacent to landed estates. 4 reception rooms, 14 bedrooms, bathroom, main drainage. Company's water. Electricity. Garages. Stabling and outbuildings. Grounds with woodland walks. Fertile and partly walled kitchen garden on southern slope. Two pasture fields. **ABOUT 12 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.**

Details from:

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**COMMONWOOD HOUSE**

(CHIPPERFIELD, HERTS.)

THIS SPLENDID MANSION on which expense has been lavished is delightfully situated on Commonwood Common with wonderful views.

It contains 37 bedrooms, 13 bathrooms, 9 reception rooms and a magnificent Hall. Every room has been superbly decorated in various period fashions—English, French, German and Spanish.

The staff quarters are excellent with two kitchens, Aga cookers, large refrigerators and fine cellars. A splendid system of central heating throughout the house. Electric light and all main services.

Garage for 12 cars with large petrol tank. A perfect Squash Court with exterior copied from the Monastery at Amalfi, and roof adapted for sunbathing. Hard and grass tennis courts.

Twenty acres of garden uniquely laid out with a wonderful collection of flowering trees and shrubs; also peach, melon and grape houses. A sunk garden—a replica of that at Hampton Court. Orchard and vegetable gardens.

Small house in the grounds with 6 rooms, electric light and bath.

The house, on which £100,000 has been spent in the last thirty years, and 20 acres of garden, are to be sold at a low price with vacant possession.

The period furniture of the house may be purchased at a valuation.

120 more acres of land, including farm house and inn are also available—including 2½ miles of valuable building frontage.

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Mrs. Allen, Commonwood Cottage,
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VALUABLE FREEHOLD AND LEASEHOLD INVESTMENTS**FREEHOLDS**

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ACTUAL AND ESTIMATED TOTAL RENT ROLL OF ABOUT £4,400 PER ANNUM. MAY BE VIEWED BY APPOINTMENT WITH THE AUCTIONEERS. MAPLE & CO., LTD., will sell the above in CONVENIENT LOTS by PUBLIC AUCTION at the LONDON AUCTION MART, 155, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C.4, on WEDNESDAY, 24th NOVEMBER, 1943, at 2.30 p.m. precisely. Solicitors: MESSRS. STANLEY EVANS & Co., 20 and 22, Theobalds Road, W.C.1. Auctioneers: MAPLE & Co., Ltd., Tottenham Court Road, W.1, and 5, Grafton Street, Old Bond Street, W.1. Tel.: Regent 4685.

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(10 lines).

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BETWEEN SEVENOAKS AND MAIDSTONE

On outskirts of a pretty, old-world village, 30 miles from London and 1½ miles from main line station with excellent service of trains to Victoria.
Bus passes through Village between Sevenoaks and Maidstone.



A PERFECT MEDIUM SIZE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Completely modernized and in first rate order, approached by carriage drive and standing in park-lands 452 feet above sea level with south aspect.

Hall, lounge, 3 large reception rooms, orangery or sun room, 11 bed and dressing rooms, 5 bathrooms, "Esse" cooker, etc.

Companies' electric light, gas, water and drainage, charming and well-timbered grounds, with grass and hard tennis courts, kitchen garden, etc.

GARAGE FOR 3 CARS. 2 COTTAGES AND 2 GRASS PADDOCKS.

THE WHOLE PROPERTY

ABOUT 23 ACRES

IS SURROUNDED ON THREE SIDES BY A WIDE SHRUBBERY BELT

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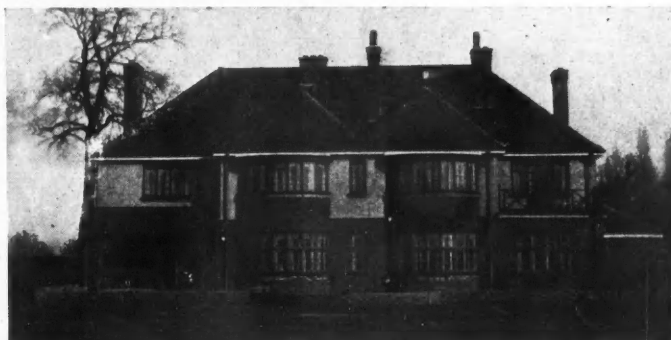
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Standing high and containing: Spacious hall, billiards room, dining room and smokeroom, all oak panelled, excellent offices, 6 best bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 servants' bedrooms.

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IN THE FAMOUS ROYAL CRESCENT.

A MODERNISED HOUSE

6 bedrooms, dressing rooms, 4 bath rooms, 4 reception rooms, good offices.

PASSENGER LIFT.

MAIN SERVICES.

TO BE SOLD

(subject to requisition by local authority.)

PRICE 4,500 FREEHOLD

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Fine views.

Only ¼ mile from station.

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE

3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 maid's bedrooms, 2 bath rooms.

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Quickly.

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Beautiful Home of Charm and Character.
XVth Century, now modernised with
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Company's water. Pretty gardens and
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Golf. Vacant Possession. All in absolute
perfect order.

FREEHOLD, £8,000

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SOUTH DEVON (14 Miles Torquay)

500 ft. up. Secluded and sheltered.
SMALL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE, 32 ACRES



Very Fine Modern Residence
of Character

in absolutely perfect order and
with every possible conveni-
ence. 3 reception, 9 bed and
dressing rooms, 3 baths. Central
heating. Electric light. Excep-
tional water supply by gravita-
tion. Modern drainage. Lovely
gardens, quiet, inexpensive.
Model farmery. Cottage.

32 ACRES,
mostly rich pasture.
VACANT POSSESSION.
FREEHOLD ONLY £6,750

NEAR A LOVELY OLD-WORLD VILLAGE IN SUSSEX

Standing very high.

A perfectly fascinating and absolutely
genuine Elizabethan Residence, modern-
ised but unspoilt. Full of oak beams and
panelling; ingle-nook fireplaces; leaded
windows and other features of the period.
Square hall, 3 reception, 4 bed and 2 dress-
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water, modern drainage. Pretty gardens,
orchard, etc.

3 ACRES

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

FREEHOLD, ONLY £2,950

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LOVELY SUSSEX MANOR

Beautiful country with fine views of the Downs.



DATING FROM THE XVIIth CENTURY and full of character and period features. 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception. Main electricity, central heating, etc. Lovely old gardens, bounded by a river. **FOR SALE WITH 7 ACRES.** A choice place for post-war occupation.

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Near Guildford.



XVIIIth CENTURY HOUSE, in lovely country. Facing South in its estate of **100 ACRES**. 13 bedrooms (most with basins), 4 bathrooms, 4 reception. Every convenience. 3 cottages. Lovely gardens and park. **FOR SALE AT BARGAIN PRICE.** A delightful small estate for post-war occupation.

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Grosvenor
1441

FINE QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

In a lovely, unspoiled part of Suffolk.



A MOST DELIGHTFUL OLD HOUSE with period decorations and surrounded by lovely old gardens with ornamental water. 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception. Electric light, central heating. Home farm (let). 3 Cottages. **FOR SALE WITH 200 ACES WITH POSSESSION AFTER THE WAR.**

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DELIGHTFUL RURAL SURROUNDINGS

yet under 1 mile NORTHWOOD Station

CHARMING MODERN COTTAGE STYLE RESIDENCE. 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, maid's sitting room. Excellent repair. All mains. Woodland grounds, $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRE. Brick garage. Early possession. **FREEHOLD £4,750** or near offer.

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For comfort and rural peace. In hunting country.

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2 miles Station, Daventry 4.

OLD-WORLD STONE COTTAGE RESIDENCE. modernised, 2 large reception rooms, lounge hall, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, main electricity, partial central heating. Delightful grounds, **2½ ACRES**, stabling, garage, etc. Early possession. **FREEHOLD £6,000** or near offer.

WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. Mayfair 5411.

WOODCOCKS

WANTED

REQUIRED BY TITLED GENTLEMAN. HOUSE OF CHARACTER, 7-10 bedrooms, with moderate acreage up to 100. Dorset, Somerset or Devon. Up to about **£5,000.**

Write: "Sir K.J." c/o WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. Mayfair 5411.

SOUTH-WEST COAST, DORSET, DEVON, ETC. LARGE HOUSE required, 10-30 bedrooms; suitable for holiday home. Would buy furniture.

"T.L.B.A." c/o WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. Mayfair 5411.

A LADY will pay up to **£8,000** for an **ATTRACTIVE SMALL PROPERTY**, say 30-100 acres, within 40 miles Birmingham in the Warwick, Stratford, or Worcester direction. House should have 7 bedrooms and modern comforts.

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EPPING, ESSEX

$\frac{1}{4}$ mile Station.

COMFORTABLE FAMILY RESIDENCE, 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, bathroom. All mains. Grounds **2½ ACRES**, with frontages to three roads, totalling about 850 feet. Garage for three cars. Immediate possession. **FREEHOLD £5,250** or near offer.

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NEAR CHAGFORD, DEVON

LOVELY LITTLE FARM, 45 ACRES, mostly rich valley land with stream (2 acres choice orchard). **CHARMING OLD-WORLD RESIDENCE** (2-3 sitting, 3 bedrooms, each with basin, h. & c., bathroom, W.C.). Ample farm buildings. Beautiful old-world cottage; perfect repair throughout. **£5,000 FREEHOLD.** Possession. Just inspected.

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Own Landing Stage on Dart Estuary.

MIXED FARM, 339 ACRES, sloping to this lovely river. Interesting old-world farmhouse (7 bedrooms, bathroom, W.C.). Set of farm buildings. 2 cottages. **FREEHOLD £10,000.** Possession or vendor would rent back from purchaser. Just inspected.

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(1/6 per line. Min. 3 lines)

AUCTIONS

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The interesting Tudor Gabled Residence "Ancient House" (circa 1500), together with adjoining $\frac{1}{2}$ Acres of Grassland. Vacant possession of a portion of the house and land. **AUCTION NOVEMBER 9.** Illustrated particulars of the joint Auctioneers, Mr. H. C. WILTON and

ARTHUR RUTTER, SONS & CO.,
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In centre of old-world Village with Anglo-Catholic Church. Easy access of main line Station. Detached Freehold Country Cottage, "Fernlea," Brede, 4 bed, bath, 2 reception, offices. Range of outbuildings. Small but pretty garden. Main electricity. **AUCTION** at RYE, NOVEMBER 24.

GEERING & COLYER,
RYE.

TO LET

HANTS. Beautifully furnished charming old Manor House, outskirts of village 3 miles from Romsey. 11 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. Excellent water. Company's electricity. Cook, help and 2 gardeners may be left. 3 paddocks and shooting over 300 Acres available. 15 guineas weekly. —Apply sole Agents: JAMES HARRIS & SON, Jewry Chambers, Winchester.

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DORSET. For Sale, remainder of OLD-WORLD COTTAGES in one of the most picturesque and well-known SOUTHERN VILLAGES, west of Bournemouth. **FREEHOLD.** Genuine family realisation sale. No agents' commission or speculators' profits. All **PRE-WAR PRICES.** An opportunity to secure future home in the country. £350. Secured income and interest and secured home pending possession. It is considered a privilege to own a cottage in this delightful village. By instalments if desired, to suit purchaser, £5 per qtr., 10 per cent. deposit. Particulars on receipt of stamped addressed envelope. If photograph required, 6d. Apply **AGENT, ESTATE OFFICE, STICKLAND HOUGHTON, BLANDFORD, DORSET.**

KENT, 12 miles. Distinctive attractive House, two floors. 6-7 bedrooms, 3-4 reception, 2 baths. Secondary stairs. Charming secluded grounds. £5,000. Some furniture. Post-war payment and possession. **Freehold.** —C/o ABBOTTS, 32, Eastcheap, E.C.3.

KENT, in a favourite district within 8 miles Maidstone. Exceptionally attractive Mixed Farm in favourite fruit area. Matured farm residence, 6 bed, bath, 3 reception, etc. Main electricity, private water supply. Exceptional buildings, gardens, small orchard and land about 75 Acres. **Freehold £5,500.** Possession. —GEERING & COLYER, Bank Chambers, Ashford, Kent.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE. Compact Estate, high position. 2 miles from nearest station. **51½ Acres** and Gentleman's Residence. 8 beds, dressing, 2 baths, 3 reception, large lounge-hall. Ample domestic offices. Central heating, etc. Accredited dairy, fine range of stabling, cow-shed, garage, etc. Reduced price for quick sale. —Apply: NEAL, Station Road, Edgware.

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WANTED

ANYWHERE IN ENGLAND except Home Counties, Cornwall or Devon. Wanted to purchase Freehold Property with medium-sized Country House (8 to 12 bedrooms) and Home Farm up to 100 Acres. Particulars and photographs to WHEATCROFT, RICHARDSON AND CO., 44, Friar Gate, Derby.

BUCKS (not by river) or **HERTS.** Wanted by February, small Country House to rent or purchase, up to £3,000. 4-5 bedrooms. —Box 601.

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COUNTRY ESTATE of about 200 acres required within 25 miles of London in the direction of Reigate, Dorking or Guildford. Large house at present let or requisitioned not an objection. —Box 565.

COUNTRY. House of character wanted to buy, in village within 100 miles south or west of London. 4 to 6 bedrooms. —Box 607.

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ONE OF THE BEST MEDIUM-SIZED COUNTRY RESIDENCES ON THE MARKET THIS EARLY AUTUMN

c.4



BASINGSTOKE AREA

300 ft. above sea level, extensive views of the surrounding unspoilt countryside. 1/4 mile main-line station.

11 bedrooms (with running water), lounge hall, 4 reception, 2 bathrooms, usual offices, "Aga" cooker, servants' hall, large cellarage.

All supply services. Central heating throughout.

Garage (3-car), enclosed wash (with living quarters over), loose boxes for 12, coach-houses, etc.

The grounds are well laid-out, comprising terraced lawns, woodlands, large vegetable and fruit gardens, 2 paddocks.

IN ALL APPROXIMATELY 13 1/2 ACRES

2 COTTAGES AVAILABLE



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DIRECT ACCESS TO FIRST-CLASS GOLF COURSE

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In a much sought-after district on the Surrey and Berks borders, about 2 miles Sunningdale.

ARTISTIC RESIDENCE

IN THE ELIZABETHAN STYLE

Hall, 3 reception, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. (h. and c. in bedrooms.)

Modern conveniences, central heating, garage (heated)

LOVELY GARDENS WITH LAWNS, TERRACES, WILD GARDEN, HEATHERLAND, KITCHEN GARDEN

IN ALL ABOUT 3 1/2 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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EAST DEVON

Handy for Honiton and Exeter and Sidmouth. Nearly 600 ft. above sea level, with delightful views.

c.4

COMPACT LABOUR-SAVING RESIDENCE

Hall, downstairs lavatory and cloakroom, 2 good reception, 5 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, complete offices. Electric light. Excellent water. Modern drainage. Good cottage. Garage for 3 cars. Useful outbuildings.

Inexpensive grounds, with beautiful flowering shrubs, lawns, rose garden, kitchen garden, etc., in all

1 1/4 ACRES

ONLY £4,000 FREEHOLD

ADDITIONAL 3 ACRES MIGHT BE RENTED

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With local hourly bus passing the property to two populous districts.

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BUNGALOW LODGE OF FOUR ROOMS AND BATH. MAIN WATER, GAS, AND DRAINAGE.

GROUNDS ABOUT 3 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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NORTH CORNWALL

c.3

Delightful situation near Newquay

FOR SALE. MODERN LABOUR-SAVING BUNGALOW RESIDENCE

with cavity walls. Large lounge, closed-in verandah, dining room, 5 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom. Large garage, tool shed, underground water tank. Secluded gardens and grounds, from which fine views can be enjoyed, the area extending to about

4 3/4 ACRES

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WIMBLEDON PARK

c.3

On a hill, commanding glorious open views.

FREEHOLD CHARACTER RESIDENCE

in select position. 3 to 4 reception, 8 to 9 bedrooms (all with h. and c.), 3 bathrooms. Main services. Central heating. Garages. Garden laid out with lawns, fine trees and shrubs, orchards, in all about

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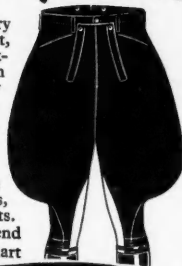
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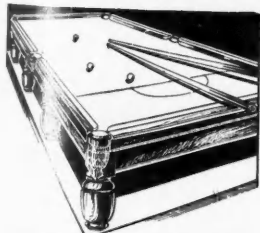
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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28	29	30				

OCTOBER

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DECEMBER

SUN.	M.	Tu.	W.	Th.	F.	S.
-	1	2	3	4	5	6
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25

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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCIV. No. 2442

NOVEMBER 5, 1943



Harlip

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COUNTRY LIFE

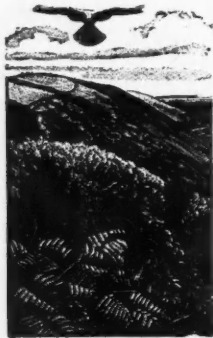
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AN INTERNATIONAL FARM CONFERENCE?

THE handsome praises bestowed by our American visitors on the achievements of British farmers and war executive committees, inspiring as they are, make only a small part of the results of the two mutual and complementary visits. Much misunderstanding is on the way to be removed. When the leaders of American farming organisations return to their own people they will be able to tell them how much shipping space is saved by sending, under the Lease-Lend Agreement, machinery and phosphates instead of food, and to explain to what good use the material sent is being put in this country. At the same time the British visitors to the U.S.A. will be able to report to their colleagues at first hand how short American farms are of labour and machinery as a result of the diversion of men and metal to munition-making at a time when we sorely needed that particular kind of help. At a more technical level there will be useful exchanges of criticism. The American farmers have been much impressed by the fact that a better job is being made here of the "use of machinery" problem than is the case in the States. They have been astonished, on the other hand, at our slackness in the eradication of disease and the complacency with which we view the results of haphazard cross-breeding. We shall be wise to take their words to heart.

On the international level, our visitors, to whose visit further reference is made in *Farming Notes* on page 828 of this issue, are going back with a demand that, through the national farm organisations of America, Britain and Canada, methods should be sought and programmes devised for a balanced adjustment of national production and international distribution. The Hot Springs Conference has already shown the willingness of many Governments with diverse needs to seek a common and co-operative programme based on the need of securing adequate nutrition for their peoples and of preserving the fertility of their lands by sound farming practice. In the past the main obstacles to agreement in such matters have arisen from national fiscal policies based either on restriction of production or over-production and, so far as it was not dictated by purely strategic reasons, aimed at a national advantage spread over the whole area of international exchange. Admittedly fiscal considerations covering the disposal of manufactured as well as of primary produce are likely to resume their international sway sooner or later, unless meanwhile a system of orderly co-operation in primary production and distribution can be made so successful as to persuade the nations that the standards of nutrition and fertility secured in

this way are of paramount importance to the well-being of their peoples. Once this was experienced and understood, food production and distribution might, not improbably, be permanently removed from the area of international economic rivalry.

If co-operation works well, the great exporting countries will have to realise that control of their production and marketing will be just as essential from their own point of view as from that of producers in countries which are their customers. In the British Empire we have a signal instance of this fact, the realisation at the Sydney Conference of the Australian producers that the United Kingdom could not offer them a progressively expanding market for all time. War-time experience can only have served to emphasise in the minds of Empire producers the stark realities of the Sydney debates. For the co-operative arrangements then set on foot the National Farmers' Union were chiefly responsible, and a similar consultation with American and Canadian producer organisations faced with the same problems is obviously the most practical method of getting a programme of international co-operation into train. Meanwhile, it is welcome news that, so far as this country is concerned, Mr. Hudson has at last been empowered to discuss long-term policy with farmers.

THE GOLDEN TIME

I HAVE stood,
lost; beholding
In the wood
leaves unfolding,
Stood to hear
birds calling:
But gold of the year
is the leaf's falling.
Trees and men—
for both together
Sun and rain
are growing weather;
Sap at root
is their growing,
Flower of thought,
fruit of doing.
Flowering past,
fruiting over,
Comes the frost
like a lover,
In her hand
her bright lending:
Gold of man
is near his ending.

ARUNDELL ESDAILE.

TOWNS OR CITIES?

THERE is general agreement, even among those least involved in the technicalities of national planning, that the big industrial cities should not be permitted to grow in population or, if possible, in area; and that, for many reasons, the careful and moderate expansion of country towns would be a good thing—possibly to the extent of some entirely new towns being established where necessary and least wasteful of good land. At the recent conference of the Town and Country Planning Association, of which the policy is every family its own house, speakers also emphasised the strategic, social, cultural, and industrial advantages of the town of 20,000-50,000 as against the 1,000,000 conglomerations. But, since the total population is tending to become stationary, country towns can only secure additional population and industries by drawing them from the cities and industrial networks. To some extent city planners encourage this decentralisation. The County of London Plan actually envisages half a million people being accommodated outside its area. Lord Latham, however, gave an indication recently that the L.C.C. views any "wholesale uprooting" of Londoners—he mentioned a million and a half—with disapproval, and has been supported in *The Times* by Sir Reginald Rowe, writing for the National Federation of Housing Societies and the Housing Centre. What they deprecate is not a moderate development of the small town, but the Association's propaganda against flats. They discount the numerous straw votes in favour of houses with gardens as the natural ideal when unqualified by practical factors. But the practical

factors—as the County of London Plan has conclusively demonstrated—are such that a two-thirds proportion of flats is the most feasible solution of the great cities', and thus of the country's, replanning problem. As things stand, we cannot get the replanned cities that we all ardently desire if they are depleted of the population and industries which provide the rates with which the costs of replanning must be defrayed. That is the dilemma. The countryman, while welcoming rehabilitation of country towns, will probably feel inclined to support the policy which best safeguards the fields from encroachment by buildings, namely the advocates of city plans based on flats, and should certainly heed their warnings against divided purpose at this time for great decisions.

RACING IN 1944

THE Stewards of the Jockey Club, by arrangement with the Government, have curtailed the number of horses that may be entered for racing next season. Those that will not be qualified are: seven-year-olds and upwards of 1944; five- and six-year-olds of 1944 which have not won since two-year-olds or which have not been placed second or third in a race of one mile or over in 1943; four-year-olds of 1944 which have never been placed; and four-year-olds and upwards of 1944 which have not been in training with a licensed trainer in 1943. A further compulsory reduction may be necessary unless trainers voluntarily put out of training those of their younger horses which show no promise. At a first glance these restrictions may appear to be very drastic, but a consideration of them shows that, beyond eliminating the older horses like the Cesarewitch winner Germanicus and the Cambridgeshire winner Quartier Maitre, and other aged geldings, they do not curtail the activities of any member of the equine race which is the least likely to be of any value to the bloodstock-breeding industry. The maintenance of that is the one purpose of racing to-day, and, when the number of horses in training must be reduced, the Jockey Club can be relied upon to keep the needs of the industry always in view. In 1938 there were just over 5,000 horses in training; last season there were about 1,500; and the new restrictions will probably reduce this number by about 250.

CHANGED VALUES

FOUR years ago school-children collected acorns at 6d. to 1s. the bushel. Now 2s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. is officially recommended as a fair price for a bushel of acorns—and apparently fewer children trouble to do the work: the tonnage of wasted acorns and beech-mast must be colossal—and this waste occurs at a time when pig foods are scarce, dear and rationed. We are far from the days when English woods were described and valued by the number of swine which they would support, but it is possible that the old laws and customs governing pannage rights—for acorns and beech-mast, and usually from Michaelmas to Martinmas—might have been revived with advantage during war-time. Again, many an old farm labourer will recall the herding of swine on the barley stubbles as one of his first jobs, probably at 6d. a day for a 10-year-old boy, but how many stubbles have had pigs on them this year? However, the sight of gleaners in the corn fields has once more been common, and perhaps the gleaning bell has again been heard in places other than Farnham in Essex, which was reported to be the only parish still retaining the old use 10 years ago. Of course values have changed: the modern gleaners wanted corn not for bread-making (as their forbears did) but for poultry; and, *per contra*, the hips and haws which were of old valued merely as after-pannage for pigs and poultry are now harvested for human beings. Yet we sometimes seem unduly reluctant to learn from the past. It is a safe assumption that most countrymen will ignore the Ministry of Agriculture's recent recommendation of grey squirrels (much esteemed in their native America) as good and palatable food, yet, barely 100 years ago, the smaller red squirrels were still being sent in thousands to Leadenhall and other London markets.



SCENE FOR A FAIRY STORY: WARKWORTH CASTLE, NORTHUMBERLAND

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

A CORRESPONDENT with the British North African Force has written asking if I can tell him anything of the life and habits of the chameleon, as he has one, acquired during the heat of the fighting in Tunisia, which shows now an inclination to "scrimshank" from further operations by following Julius Caesar's habit of going *in hibernis*. So far as I know the chameleon does hibernate, as I do not recollect seeing them in North Africa or Palestine during the winter months.

He asks also if the chameleon drinks, in much the same way as a particular old lady makes the enquiry when engaging a new chauffeur. He has every reason for asking the question as, when his chameleon was dining with him at a French farm-house in Tunisia, it licked the drops off a wine-glass containing vintage Perrier Jouet, and showed every sign of appreciation. A very human reptile is the chameleon, for when this specimen was offered water later he showed no interest in it whatsoever.

Personally I never indulged my pet chameleons to this extent, for they were brought up on strictly teetotal lines and drank only dew-drops from scrub bushes, but I have noticed that it is not only the human beings in this very imperfect world who appreciate alcohol. I have had birds, hares and cats who liked a "drop" whenever they could get it, and at a shoot recently a retriever lapped up my glass of beer during lunch before I had touched it—a very serious matter these days when the ration is limited to one small bottle per man.

MY correspondent says his chameleon is not gregarious in his tastes, as he put some small lizards in his cage for company, and the chameleon was furious at the intrusion, picking them up one by one with his tongue at a range of 5 ins. and biting their heads off. I can under-

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

stand this, for the chameleon lives in a constant state of suppressed choler, and almost anything upsets him—particularly the sight of a smaller member of his species. If any reader wants to know what a chameleon looks like when angry he should wait in the reading room of a senior military club, and watch the old retired generals and colonels in their special armchairs when a couple of chattering subalterns walk in, rustle all the papers, knock out their pipes noisily on the fireplace, and begin discussing starting-prices.

When an old colonel chameleon sees a young subaltern chameleon he takes a firm grip of his branch so that the knuckles of his hands whiten and stand out in relief; his neck bulges and becomes empurpled; his dewlap (all retired colonels wear dewlaps) swells to six times its normal size; his eyes pop out at the extreme end of their wrinkled bags of skin; and his lips work furiously. The rest of the performance, however, is disappointing, as at the moment when his likeness to a retired colonel is most marked and one expects a string of expletives of the right vintage, the chameleon gives utterance to a feeble hiss.

* * *

IN these Notes recently I stated that some sailing ship in the days of the clippers had travelled at the record speed of 18 knots, which is over 20 miles an hour, but that I was uncertain if the vessel in question was the famous *Cutty Sark*, or some other well-known fast ship. A correspondent from Liverpool, the port of registry of many of our famous clippers, has

supplied the information and the vessel which performed the feat and made the record of the fastest run in 24 hours was the full-rigged ship *Lightning*, an American clipper on the Boston-Liverpool passage. She was built in the year 1854, and the record run was made very shortly afterwards during a 13-day voyage from Boston to Liverpool, in which the winds were not altogether favourable as there was one day of dead calm and several days of head winds when the ship had to tack.

The day of the record—436 miles in 24 hours—was March 1 off the north-west coast of Ireland with a strong gale from the south, and at the height of the blow one of the jibs and the fore-topsail carried away. The replacement of a jib is not a difficult matter as it can be performed on the fo'c'sle head, but the bending on aloft of a new fore-topsail in a gale of wind is a stupendous task. One imagines it was achieved, as the *Lightning* could not have made the record run, or anything approaching a record run, with this most important stretch of canvas missing.

* * *

THE log was hove several times during the day and night, registering always 18 to 18½ knots, and the whole time the lee rail was under water with the lee rigging hanging slack, which gives some idea of the excessive strain on the weather rigging which bore the full weight of the wind in the canvas. Those, however, were the days of "cracking on" when a captain would run risks to make a fast passage, and in those days also sailing ships were properly manned so that there was sufficient crew on board to deal with situations caused by the loss of masts and spars. It was a very different story during the evening of the life of the sailing ship in the '90s, when the competition of steam was driving her from the seas, and crews, reduced to a minimum, were insufficient to handle the vessel in a tight corner.

MORE RECOLLECTIONS OF THE ROAD

Written and Illustrated by LIONEL EDWARDS

The London-Brighton stage coach took the road again yesterday, with Sidney Truett, its old driver, at the reins. The journey started at the George, Crawley, with 15 passengers who each paid a guinea for the 11-mile run to Horsham.—*Sunday Express*, July 17, 1943.

MANY old-fashioned inns when I was young still retained on their signs "Post-horses." I remember in one case "Neat Post-chaises" and on very many "Good Accommodation for Man and Beast." Except at one hotel in Guildford I do not think post-horses could actually be obtained. At this hostel, I remember, a post-boy and two grey horses were still kept for weddings, and, with their white favours, very smart they looked on such occasions. I have an idea, although it is not verified, that the post-boy's gaily-coloured and many-buttoned jacket still hangs in a glass case in the private bar. (I remember going as a prep. schoolboy for summer holidays to Scarborough and on the front were pony phaetons, drawn by a single horse on which was a boy in post-boy's costume, and long before the days of taxis they did a roaring trade.)

"Good accommodation" as far as the man was concerned was usually fairly truthful, but it was not always so for the horse, as, apart from bad stabling, it was advisable to see your horse eat its feed before you had your own, as some ostlers picked the oats out of the manger when you had gone to serve up again to the next comer.

Also, if your horse was not keen to eat his oats when they were put before him, you might reasonably suspect chopped onions, put in that the oats might be served up again. In fact, hotel oats often lasted quite a long time!

Another ostler's trick was to pinch the curb chain and strap off your bridle. The first was used doubtless as a replacement in the hotel harness-room; the second served as a watch-chain. This custom continues to-day in the occasional extraction of tools from your car. The charges for accommodation for horse-drawn vehicles or saddle-horses was not excessive, whatever the hotel inside charges might be. Here are some taken off an old hotel notice-board:

	s.	d.
Saddle horse on pillar rein	1	0
Standing for one horse	1	0
" with hay	1	6
" with corn	2	0
Night including corn	8	0
Carriage cleaning	1	0

These (nominally) included the ostler's fee.

Owing to petrol shortage there has during the present war been a considerable return to horse-drawn traffic, but, in spite of the departure of motor traffic elsewhere and the roads being consequently now less dangerous, half the use of the horse has gone owing to surface-dressed roads, which have reduced the speed of horse-drawn vehicles as much as they have increased that of mechanised ones. For a free-moving horse very soon comes to grief on their smooth surface, although an old screw that only potters along is fairly safe. Secondly the lack of stabling

at modern inns also deprives the modern horse-owner of much of his animal's utility. In fact, the motor car has been allowed entirely to monopolise the King's highway.

Can you conceive that in the age of the horse fatal road accidents would have been allowed to reach 26,000 in a year? In one year of warfare (1942) 16,000 merchant seamen lost their lives; but 26,000 additional people were killed on the roads by contempt for public safety!

To prove my case that in the age of the horse they knew, at any rate, how to deal with dangerous drivers, let me quote an incident that took place on the famous Holyhead Road in coaching days. Near St. Albans, the coachman of the Holyhead Mail tried to pass the Chester Mail from the rear, and on the wrong side. Both coaches were then galloping—racing, in fact. The driver of the Chester coach, annoyed at this attempt to overtake on the wrong side, pulled his leaders across the other team. The result was that both coaches were turned over and several men and horses were injured and one passenger was killed. A verdict of manslaughter was brought against both coachmen, and both spent six months in chains pending their trial, at which they received a further 12 months' imprisonment!

Although my own father used, when a medical student, to travel by coach to Edinburgh and Liverpool, coaches had, of course, long disappeared from the roads before I, as the youngest son, appeared on the scene. The ultimate extinction of the coach had been foreshadowed by Erasmus Darwin (1789); yet coaches did not cease to run until very many years later. About the first to go (1841) were those running between London and Brighton, although one coach, *The Age*, continued to run to Brighton until about 1860. The Chester-Holyhead Mail was not taken off until about 1850; and in parts of the Scottish Highlands coaches continued to run as late as 1875. The G.P.O. ran a coach to Brighton as late as 1905.

With the cessation of coaching as a means of travel, it yet survived in several other forms. It started as a sport actually before its decease as a means of travel. The founder of the amateur driving clubs was the famous John Warde (the father of fox-hunting) in 1807; this was the Benson Driving Club, known as the B.D.C. (the members met twice a year to dine at The White Hart, Benson, Oxfordshire). However, there were actually amateur coach drivers long before this, for the Lord Protector, it will be recalled, tried to drive six German horses, presented to him by the Count of Oldenburg, but the cracking of his whip led to disastrous results! The Cavaliers commemorated his accident in verse:

I would to God for these three Kingdoms' sakes
His neck, and not the whip, had given the crack.

The most famous of the driving clubs was the Four-in-hand Club, started in 1870, whose uniform was a dark blue coat, buff waistcoat with gilt buttons with "CC" engraved on them.

To return to the road as a business. Coaching began again in Victorian times to cater for the tourist traffic, but not as a means of travel so much as a method of sight-seeing, and so continued until the horse coach was replaced by the modern motor-coach in quite recent years. Of these few pleasure coaches, which catered for tourist traffic in the beauty spots of North Devon, North Wales and the Scottish Highlands, I remember two in particular. One, *The Red Deer*, travelled between Macclesfield and Lynton, and the other, *The Venture*, had a round of Snowdonia.

The Red Deer remains in my recollection as it was the only coach I ever saw actually using a cock-horse. This animal and its youthful rider helped to pull the heavy vehicle up Porlock Hill, an ascent which has since those days defeated many a motorist in spite of the road having been improved and eased at the corners.

It occurs to me that the word cock-horse probably conveys nothing to modern readers.



COCK-HORSE RESTING AT THE TOP OF PORLOCK HILL

but, if it were described as trace horse, the situation would be more or less explained, as in most large cities one or other of the animal protection societies still keeps a trace horse to help heavily laden animals up the suppers, steep inclines. Speaking from memory, I think there are, or were, such trace horses at the foot of both Tower Hill and Knightsbridge and at the Archway, Highgate.

I remember thinking as a school-boy that the job of postillion on a cock-horse must be rather fun. This was perhaps because climbing Porlock Hill on foot on a hot summer's day, I saw the cock-horse boy, having just unhitched his horse from the toiling coach, throw himself down in the purple haze, light a cigarette, and, his cap over his eyes, relapse into slumber. The horse and his horse with hanging tail and tail swishing to keep off flies made a picturesque group against the deep blue of the Bristol Channel, beyond which Wales lay, an indefinite smudge, on the horizon.

This cock-horse had, I remember, an ordinary carriage head collar, with blinkers and a carriage bit, but the reins were riding reins, buckled on. The girths on the collar had no terrets; the saddle flaps were long and covered the stirrup leathers, only the stirrup leathers being in evidence. There was a loin strap to hold up the trace, and two straps from the crupper to the swingle bar were apparently to keep it from too much lateral motion, possibly also to keep it away from the tail.

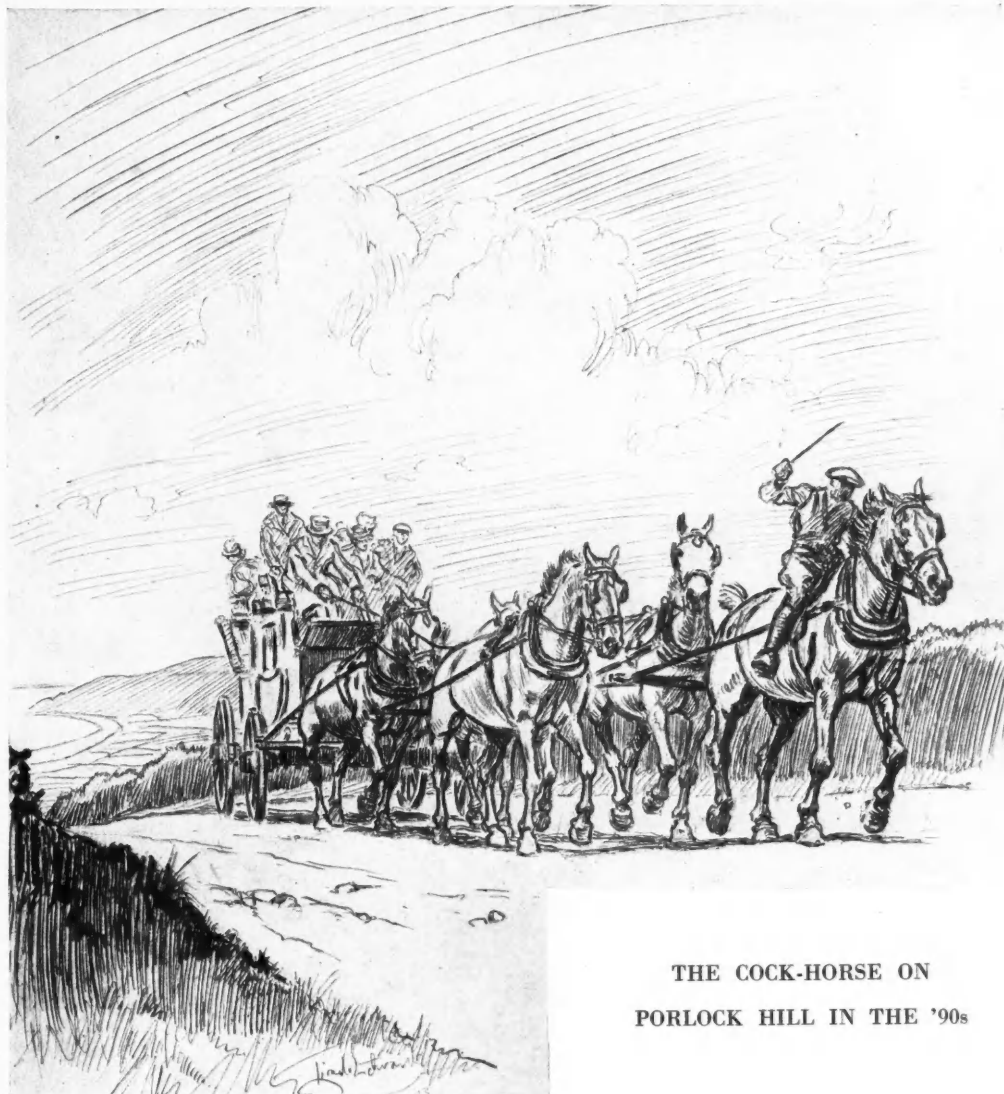
There were, I think, two Lynton-Minehead coaches running daily, for I have a vague memory that one of my earliest efforts at Press illustration was a contemporary sketch of a coach called *The Lorna Doone* on Porlock Hill, which I did for a periodical, *Stable and Kennel*.

The Venture I chiefly remember because, thanks to the generosity of the owners (Messrs. Francis and Sons, Colwyn Bay), I was able to learn a bit about coaching, as they lent the whole turn-out, including driver and guard, to me. Although I scarcely learnt to drive, I did learn to appreciate the skill required and to realise that, however good a "whip" you might become, you had merely to change your team to have an entirely new proposition before you.

The first thing that strikes the novice on taking up the ribbons is the terrific weight in his hands. After an hour's drive one's left hand especially is numb and cramped; and at the first halt one lifts one's glass to the lips like a vintage toper with a tight hold of the wrist with the other hand!

Starting a coach is not easy. In theory, the wheelers start the coach, with the result that in practice the beginner drives his pole into the leaders' tails, with a resulting kicking match! Once in motion, one can adjust one's reins—always too long for the beginner, who generally gets his hand too far forward, which is one of the reasons the arms get so tired. Owing to this weight of reins, unless the horses actively pull, it is difficult to tell if one is really in touch with their mouths.

Shortening the reins is another difficulty, and turning a corner also distinctly puzzles a beginner, for to turn to the left, for example, one has to turn first a trifle to the right to get round, and a coach-and-four takes up a lot of room. Experience and judgment are required to make four horses do their fair share of work, and this is most difficult when the horses are not so evenly worked together. Uphill the leaders should really pull, but down-hill only carry their share, technically known as "taking them out of the draught." Increasing speed to the gallop, known as "springing 'em," is rather beyond the beginner, and most alarming, with its terrific clatter of hoofs, rattle of bars and chains and the silent swaying of the coach.



THE COCK-HORSE ON
PORLOCK HILL IN THE '90s

As for the whip, this is hopeless. Its use is a fine art, as the term "a good whip" implies. In the hands of the beginner it is merely a very dangerous weapon. A horse should never be hit, or even flicked by a tyro. The lash drawn across him is sufficient. The expert can use a whip like a dry-fly fisherman and not only hit the right horse, but hit it in the right place without endangering the passengers' eyes! It is little short of marvellous to see an expert hit the near leader from the off side under the bars.

Coaching, in fact, is no easy art, and the little I then learnt has been most useful to me as an artist and saved me making the majority of the errors usually made by modern delineators of coaching days.

Of tandem driving I have personally had no experience except as a passenger. It was frequently stated that tandem driving was a most dangerous mode of conveyance. The fact that it frequently was so could usually be traced to someone saying: "We have a couple of good ponies; let's drive them in tandem: it should be great fun." (It frequently was!)

In these days, one sees tandems only in the show-ring, usually with a couple of high-stepping hackneys. None the less, within the last 10 years I have not only seen, but driven behind, a tandem on the Brighton road. The woman driver was a marvel, as she was entirely self-taught from careful study of the volume on *Driving* in the Badminton Library. She had broken and trained her own ponies, and in spite of motor cyclists who came round corners on the wrong side ("as if they Germans was after 'em," as my old ploughman says of D.R.s.), we escaped mishap.

To come to one-horse power. The incident I remember most clearly perhaps is my first motor accident. Rounding a blind corner in

Berkshire a chauffeur driving an empty car overtook on the bend and met another car on its wrong side, also chauffeur-driven (and also without passengers). The passing car cut across my horse, knocking him almost off his feet and crashed into the wall, breaking off the mudguard and busting both lamps. The other car shot across the road and ended up in a ditch. The two chauffeurs, without attempting to help me, then engaged in a heated altercation. As my horse was quite unhurt and not even much alarmed, I left them to it!

This same horse (a white cob and a patent safety hunter) used to be greeted by the country children with cries of "White horse! White horse! mind you bring me luck!" To-day a white horse would, I suppose, excite no comment.

In the early days of motor traffic, although the surface of the roads was less tricky for horses, yet driving was more dangerous, because horses had not then got used to this new vehicle; but there were exceptions. Londoners of my generation will recall the big horsed wagons which brought vegetables to Covent Garden, and how, although the drivers were often, in fact usually, fast asleep, these animals kept to their own side of the road and took their loads through the traffic (already becoming mechanised) in safety.

On country roads, less thickly populated, this feat may perhaps appear rather less remarkable. I can remember a neighbour who, although no drunkard, nevertheless always on market days was overcome by beer—the local brewery being famous for its potent brand (which incidentally was jolly good!). He usually drove to market in a milk-float behind a black cob called *The Curate*, and the other passengers were usually either calves, or pigs beneath a pig net. Having disposed of his cargo,

he would then adjourn to the local hostelry, and, when he had attained a state of sufficiently deep slumber, his pals would place him in the

milk-float, put the pig net over him, tie the reins loosely to the dashboard, and smack the old cob on its backside, and it would slowly jog

home with "maister," always safely delivering him to his fat, good-natured "missis," who looked with a comparatively lenient eye on his weekly misdemeanour.

The driving of a horse and a mechanical vehicle has, I always think, this in common: although each is fascinating to drive, they are both rather tedious for those driven.

That reminds me—I wonder if modern children play the road game? I doubt it. A car travels too fast, and being closed and low it restricts the passengers' view more than a horsed vehicle, which would add to the difficulties considerably. On long drives, as children we used to play a game in which the various players took the right and left hand side of the road, counting all that was seen at a previously arranged value—a man so many marks, a bicycle so many, and so forth. Whoever reached a hundred, or some such figure, first, was the winner. Being mercenary-minded we usually had put a penny each in the pool, which the winner collared.

In conclusion, let us by all means be up to date.

A winter or two ago we had a prolonged frost. Owing to the ice and snow the milk lorry would not chance any side roads, so milk had to be sent to meet the lorry by horse transport (a clever horse being just able to remain on its legs).

The dairyman loading up the last of the churns handed the reins to his new land girl and said: "Push off. We're late."

She indignantly replied: "Wot! am I expected to do chauffeur as well?"



IT WOULD SLOWLY JOG HOME WITH "MAISTER," ALWAYS SAFELY DELIVERING HIM

BATS BY THE SEA

By E. L. GRANT WATSON

THE cave where the bats take their day-time rest is as difficult to come to as it is romantically beautiful in its setting. After clambering down the grassy, though extremely steep, face of a cliff, one must balance and jump from one rounded boulder to another for some considerable distance. The grey, smooth surfaces are like eggs of various sizes; some are as large as cushions, others like cricket balls thrown there by the waves, huddled around the curves of the underlying rocks, which here and there still show their battered heads. On the right are the cliffs, too steep to be climbed except in that one place. On the left, beyond the line of grey boulders is a flat, denuded shelf of uptilted and sheared-off strata of Devonian grit. This is worn to a serrated pattern, in which at low tide are pools and growths of seaweed, and here and there stretches of sun-dried rock. Beyond this shelf are the breakers and the sea.

Few humans come here. No one knows about the bats.

The bat-cave is one of many small cavelets formed by faults and shearing-strains where the anticlines of the twisted strata have been broken, and where waves and water drippings from above have worn hollows. A low, narrow entrance opens into a larger atrium where it is possible to stand upright, and from which by bending again one can look back on the sea, which now seems so distant; its sound murmurs here, as though within an instrument. Behind, to right and left, branch two caverns leading into the darkness. A few steps down the larger passage, and one is cut off from the sea's echo. Here is the deep stillness and silence of the earth, a complete absence of sound, but later, because of the very stillness, can be heard the pulsing of blood close to the ear-drums. From

such a place, imagination, penetrating the rocks, pictures their close-massed weight, and above them the thin layer of soil with the plant roots and the grass, and the soles of the shoes of the people who are walking overhead.

This is the place where the bats are. I and my companion squat on each side of the narrow passage, and I strike a match and light a candle. The bats are hanging in ones and twos and sometimes in small clusters. Most often they have their membranous wings enfolding their bodies; sometimes the wings hang on either side leaving the furry bodies exposed. There are two kinds: pipistrelle, the common bat, and Natterer's bat with longer ears and wider wing-span.

I take one from its roost, examining it in the light of the candle. It is so small, it seems to have no weight, its body a mere nucleus from which springs long, soft fluff, and its wings are of fabric almost as delicate as spiders' web. It turns its tiny face towards me and swears a shrill, complaining curse; the membranes tremble with a kind of anguish, as though the surface of a brain were accidentally exposed to the harsh hazards of chance. Looking closer I clearly see that the little thing is trembling and shivering as that delicate substance through which all its sensibilities are conveyed is brought into contact with my hand. I will not hold it longer than I need, but hitch a match-stalk under one of its grasping feet. It hangs and swings for a moment with wings expanded, then folds them. Still turning its face towards the light, it continues to swear from a wide-open mouth.

How tiny these creatures are one does not realise when seeing them on the wing. They look the size of a sparrow, but really they are less than a quarter of a sparrow's weight. Their offspring are so small when first born that

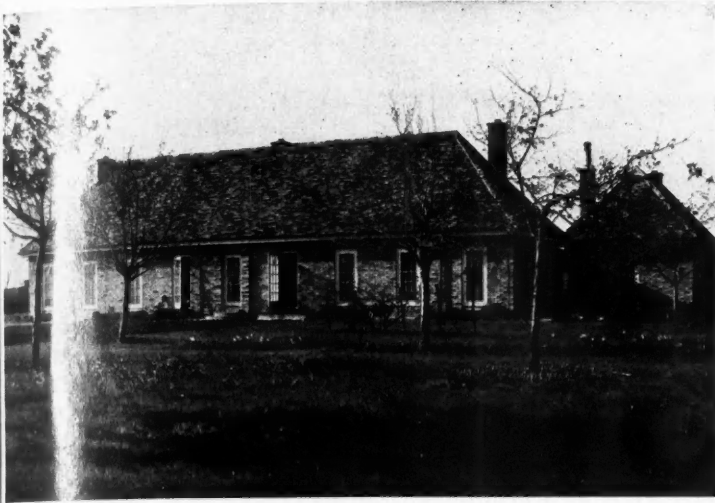
it is hard to imagine all the complicated structure of a mammal contained within that minute space. They have but one young at a time, and this is no wonder. They nurse them at the breast. Before birth the mother bat turns head up and drops the young bat into the pouch of membranous skin made by the bending forward of her tail. Then she lifts it and cleans it and places it at her breast. It clings on with its teeth, and also clutches her fur with its hooked thumbs and hind-claws. Here it can stay without hampering her flight, taking its food when it needs. After a fortnight it has grown too large to retain its infant-position. The mother takes it off and hangs it up by its feet in some safe place. Here it is left while she is out looking for food. When she returns, she replaces it at the breast. In this way, throughout the summer she feeds it. Towards autumn, when about three-quarters grown, it begins to fly, its wings instinctively taking the air.

Our little bat, who has allowed himself, though not very willingly, to be inspected, still clings, shivering and swearing, to the match stalk. With some difficulty he is hitched back on to the roof again, and there, among the others, he remains, a grey bundle of silky fur and down, enclosed in a living winding cloth of the finest possible texture.

There on the rock ceiling they hang, some score and more of them, strange, drooping fruit in the flickering candle-light, and there we leave them in that under-earth silence, waiting for the decline of day, when some message will be mysteriously conveyed that the light outside is waning. Then they will drop from their roosting crevices, flutter their sensitive wings and find again the entrance of the cave, where the winds of the outer world will meet them, and the murmur of the sea.

A GROUP OF MODERN ALMSHOUSES

THE FIVE HOUSES, BARTON, NEAR CAMBRIDGE



SOUTH FRONT OF THE ALMSHOUSES



THE NORTH FRONT

SINCE the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the sixteenth century, almshouses have been built in many towns and villages of England. Some of them are delightful additions to the architecture and charm of the places they adorn. One of the latest, if not the latest, of these is The Five Houses at Barton, near Cambridge, which were finished in October, 1939. The donor, Mr. Elliott Howes, was his own architect and so had the pleasure of designing and planning the whole and of seeing it materialise. It was built with direct labour under a very sound master builder. Mr. Howes lodged in the village while the almshouses were being built, so that he could work in the garden and, as he expressed it, have a finger in every pie.

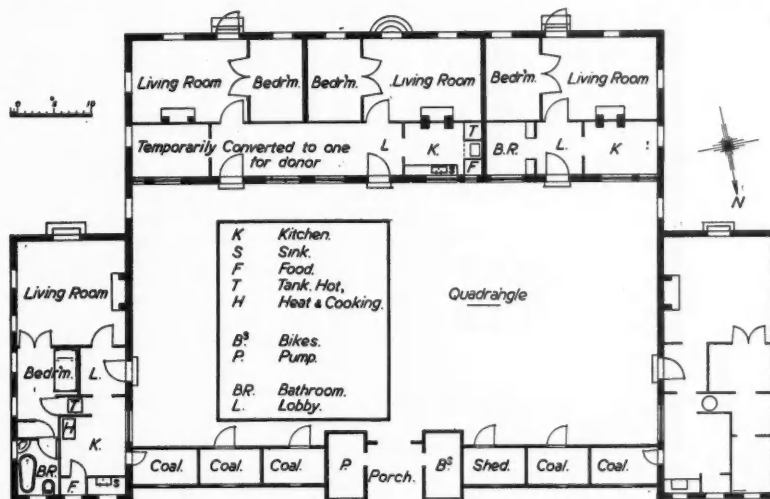
As the plan shows and the name indicates the group consists of five little flats, each of which is designed to house in comfort one retired worker. Each contains a sitting-room, with at least one of its windows facing south, a small bedroom opening from it, a bathroom

and kitchen and a loft for storage. Each flat has an electric cooker, as well as a stove of the dual-purpose type. An electric pump supplies the whole with water.

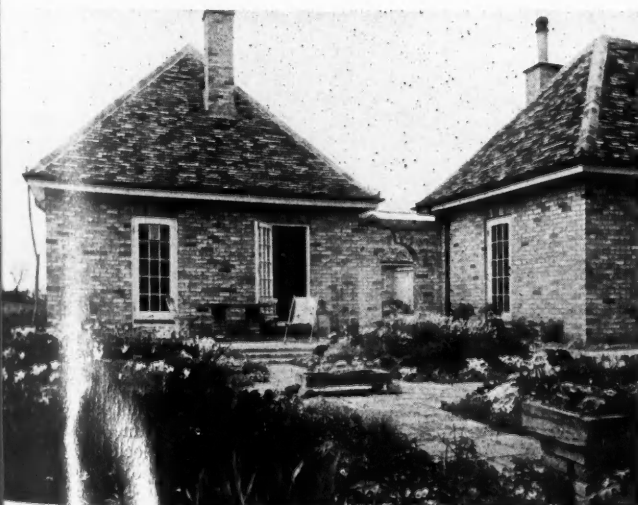
The materials are charming old Cambridgeshire hand-made bricks and tiles. The court-

yard is laid out as a formal pleasure and at the main entrance to it from the north there is an 18th-century Spanish gate. Each flat has a small unfenced flower garden; there are vegetable plots to the north and an orchard to the south. The group stands on an open site on the outskirts of the village and there are pleasant views to both the north and south, that to south being secured by the purchase of part of an arable field adjoining the orchard. The whole property comprises about four acres of ground, most of which was bought in 1928, at which time the trees were planted.

The Cambridge Preservation Society has accepted this property from the donor by deed of gift to be held primarily as residences for the local district nurse and for retired gardeners. As there is no endowment, there will be a nominal rent to cover maintenance and repairs. The principal condition attached to the gift is that Mr. Howes should live in two of them, temporarily thrown into one, rent free for the remainder of his life.



PLAN OF THE FIVE HOUSES



A FLOWER GARDEN IN SPRING



IN THE "QUAD"

MEDIAEVAL CLOCKS AND THE ENGLISH LANTERN CLOCK

By R. W. SYMONDS

POPULAR historians tell us that the Machine Age came in suddenly in the eighteenth century with the steam engine, and machine processes in the textile industries. But the civilised world was preparing itself for the coming of a machine civilisation, as it exists to-day, for at least seven centuries before this.

Previous to the tenth century there existed water-clocks, power machines in the form of water-mills, sailing vessels, and probably windmills; there also existed machine tools—the bow-drill and the lathe. In the twelfth century the Chinese used gunpowder and cannons, and the magnetic compass (which the Chinese knew about in 1160 B.C.) was brought to Europe through the Arabs, and a paper mill was erected at Hérault (France). In the thirteenth century came block printing at Ravenna, the use of the spinning wheel, and spectacles; and the mechanical clock also was invented.

The clock from all these inventions was the outstanding machine in this initial period; and throughout the centuries up to the present time it still retains the lead. For in each period it has represented—and still represents—a standard of perfection to which other machines aspire, but which none has been able to excel. Previous to the mechanical clock, time was roughly gauged by a sundial, a water-clock, a sand-glass, a burning candle or lamp.

In the early days of civilisation, man was not time-conscious; and he was content to abide by Nature's laws—each day to him was not a sequence of hours and minutes, but a period during which the dawn broke, the sun rose, and with its sinking the night fell. The order he was most conscious of was life's circle—birth, childhood, maturity, old age, death.

The demand for a systematic order of living came first from the monastery. In the seventh century Pope Sabinianus decreed that the monastery bells should be rung seven times in the 24 hours and these divisions of the day were known as the canonical hours. Later this desire for a life regulated by the ringing of the bells spread beyond the monastery to the cities

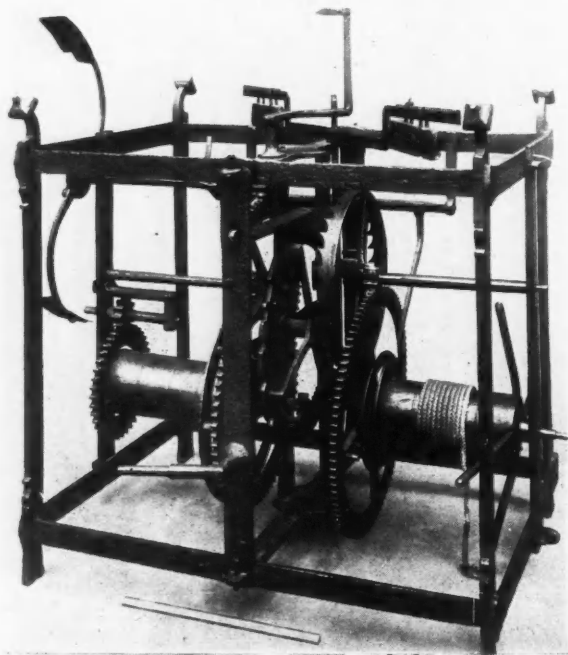
and towns. Bell-towers were erected throughout Western Europe in the thirteenth century and the chiming of the hours synchronised the daily lives of the citizens and peasants in their work, their rest and their prayer.

The urgent need of an instrument for measuring time—so that the monastery bell could be struck at the right hour—caused men's minds to try to improve upon the sundial and the water-clock. This brought about—it is thought in the thirteenth century—the invention of the mechanical clock, the motive power of which was a weight.

The working of a mechanical clock was thus. The weight, which is the motive power, revolved a spindle by reason of the rope, to which the weight is attached, being coiled around it. As the weight falls so does the spindle revolve. The spindle when revolving works other wheels and pinions by means of cogs or teeth, and these wheels operate the hand or hands which point to the time on the dial. Now this mechanism—called a train of wheels—must have some method of being regulated or checked. Otherwise the weight through gravity would run out in a few seconds to the full length of the rope; the only resistance being the friction of the toothed wheels. This regulation of the train of wheels was done by an escapement, which gave to the train, or rather the quickest-moving wheel in it, a step-by-step—a tick-tock—movement. This wheel, known as the escape wheel, was governed by a device which first took the form of a weighted cross-bar called a "foliot"; later it was in the form of a wheel; and later still the regulator was a pendulum.



1.—SIR THOMAS MORE WITH HIS FAMILY AT CHELSEA, BY HANS HOLBEIN. Circa 1533. Notice the chamber clock "with a frame" fixed to the wall in front of the hangings



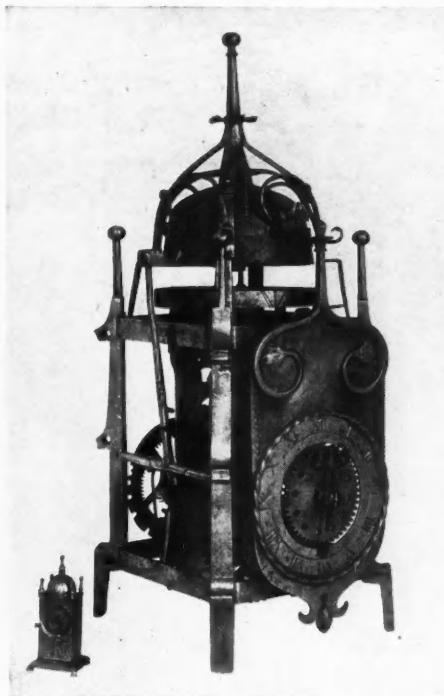
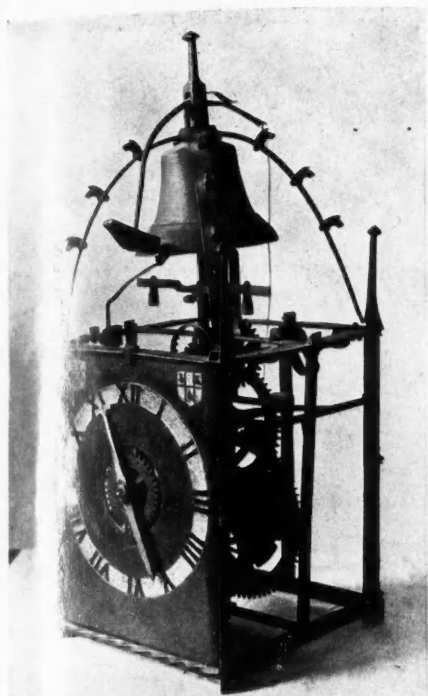
2.—EXAMPLE OF AN ENGLISH MEDIAEVAL PUBLIC CLOCK FROM DOVER CASTLE

Going train right, striking train left. (Collection Science Museum)

It would appear that the first mechanical clocks were without dials, being designed as an alarm, which gave a signal—probably by a small bell—thereby telling the "keeper of a cloke" it was time to strike the hour on the large bell, the clanging of which could be heard far and wide. In 1410, in the town of Montpelier, the town council became dissatisfied with their clock-keeper and "striker of the hours by night and day" (*pulsator horarum noctibus et diebus*); for not only did he omit to strike the hours correctly but his wages were high. The councillors therefore ordered one of the new clocks from Dijon, which worked without any human agency, for it had a wooden man called Jacomart that automatically struck the bell with a hammer when the hour came for it to do so. Therefore, mediaeval weight-driven clocks, from being originally an alarm for the clock-keeper, later developed into an automatic timekeeper, which first told the hours by striking them on a bell, and afterwards in addition on a dial. With both the bell and the dial the citizens could tell the time by the town clock by day and by night—the hour and its quarters on the dial by day, and the hour only at night by the sound of the bell. The clock from Dover Castle (Fig. 2) is a mediaeval town clock that told the time in this way—by a bell (now missing) and by a dial (also missing).

After the public clock came the chamber or domestic clock, which was a smaller edition; its clockwork being contained in a metal frame with posts at the corners. The two trains—the going and the striking—were designed generally one in front of the other behind the dial; an arrangement which caused many chamber clocks to be square in plan. Mediaeval chamber clocks of an uncommon type were triangular and circular in plan and an astronomical clock made by Giovanni Dondi (circa 1348-64) had an heptagonal frame.

The mediaeval chamber clock hung on the wall (Fig. 1); for only in this position could the weights drop below—it was therefore a semi-portable clock. On the Continent this mural chamber clock was not uncommon in the fifteenth century, and during the sixteenth century



(Left) 3.—15TH-CENTURY IRON CHAMBER CLOCK WITH FRAME, FOLIOT BALANCE. German. (Webster Collection.) (Centre) 4.—LATE 16TH-CENTURY CHAMBER CLOCK OF EXCEPTIONAL SIZE, WHEEL BALANCE. South German. (Webster Collection.) (Right) 5.—SOUTH GERMAN CHAMBER CLOCK, FOLIOT BALANCE AND DIAL DATED 1558. (Francis Harper Collection)

its production must have steadily increased. The earlier clocks had the foliot balance (Fig. 3) and the later ones the wheel balance (Fig. 4). In 16th-century England, where clock-making was in its infancy and was a branch of the blacksmith's craft, this type of weight-driven chamber clock "with a frame" was made—one would say—in but small numbers. But during the first half of the next century, it began to enjoy considerable popularity; in fact so much so that after 1660 it must have been a common article in many a citizen's home. Such English clocks, which were made of brass, are to-day called lantern clocks.

The first lantern clocks had their escapements regulated by a balance wheel, which oscillated under the dome of the bell. No English mediæval chamber clock has so far been recorded with the foliot balance. But this wheel type of regulator was not fitted much later than 1658, the date of the pendulum, which then became the regulator of all lantern clocks.

The lantern clock continued to be made throughout the eighteenth century, but in this century it became the clock of the countryside rather than the clock of the citizen. In the later clocks the dials became much larger and projected considerably beyond the clock frame, and because of their appearance they were called "sheep's heads"; they were also made square and arched like those of grandfather clocks. The larger dial undoubtedly was in answer to the wish of the country people living in badly lighted cottages.

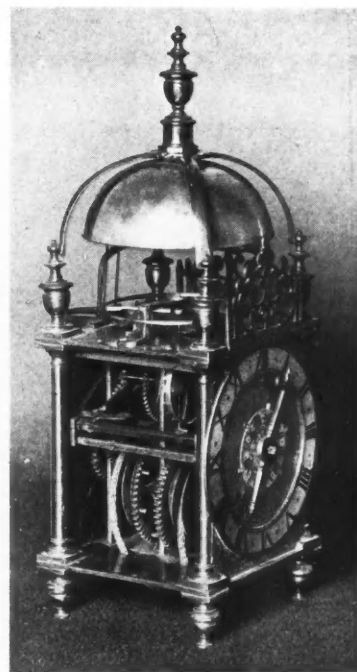
The lantern clock was essentially a clock with one end; or even in 18th-century examples possessed of two it will be

found that the minute hand is often a later addition. In the case of a clock designed originally with a minute hand, the dial was inscribed with the minutes on the outer edge of the chapter circle. The lantern clock was also essentially one that went for 30 hours, after which time the weights had to be pulled up. Lantern clocks without weights that go by means of a spring are either modern copies, or original clocks that have had their old works replaced by modern, to enable them to stand on a chimneypiece and go for a week without winding.

A noticeable feature of this early school of clock-making was the way that the old

design persisted long after it had been superseded. Mediæval clocks with the foliot balance were still being made on the Continent in the seventeenth century; and the English lantern clock with its four-posted square frame was made as late as the early part of the nineteenth century. The reluctance of the craftsman to give up what he was so well versed in making is not surprising, when it is considered how certain parts of a country long remained immune to progress.

The fashionable wares made for the wealthy changed swiftly, but the local wares of a countryside followed undisturbed the course of the slow-moving wheel of tradition.



(Left) 6.—ENGLISH IRON-CASED LANTERN CLOCK BY JOHN HOLLOWAY. Early seventeenth century. (Webster Collection.) (Centre) 7.—SIDE VIEW OF LANTERN CLOCK SHOWING GOING AND STRIKING TRAINS AND EARLY WHEEL BALANCE ABOVE. (Webster Collection.) (Right) 8.—BRASS-CASED LANTERN CLOCK BY DAVIS MELL, WITH ORIGINAL MINUTE HAND (Temp. Charles II)

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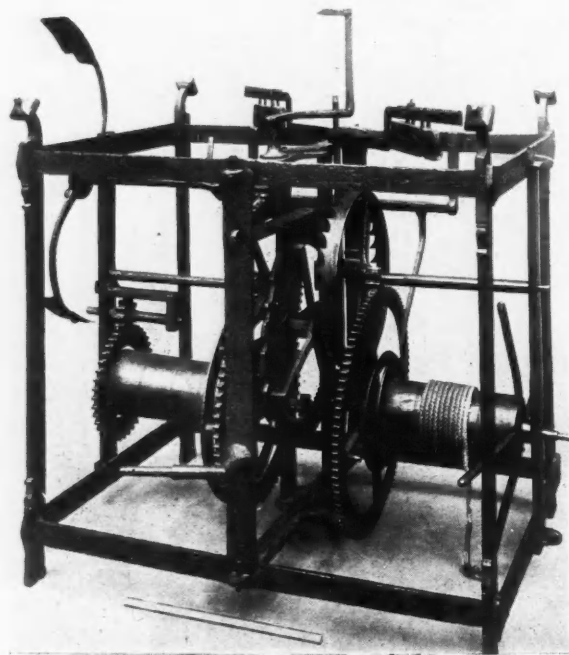
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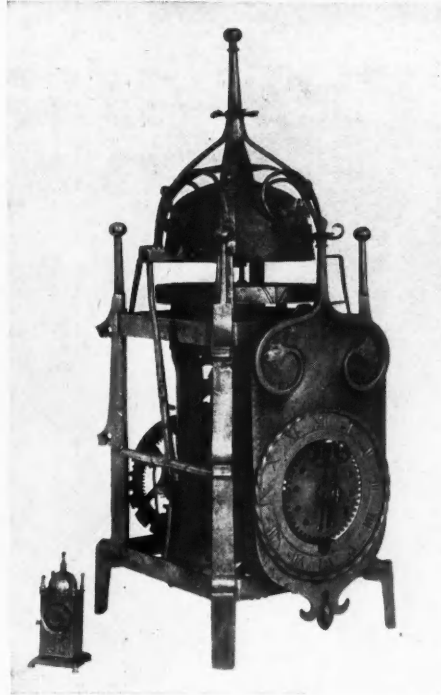
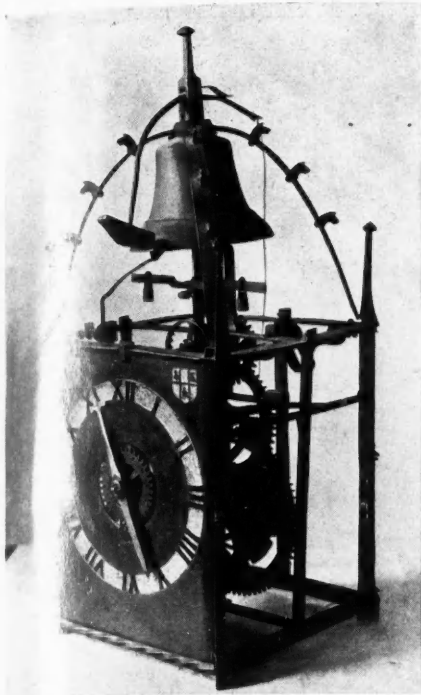
2.—EXAMPLE OF AN ENGLISH MEDIAEVAL PUBLIC CLOCK FROM DOVER CASTLE

Going train right, striking train left. (Collection Science Museum)

It would appear that the first mechanical clocks were without dials, being designed as an alarm, which gave a signal—probably by a small bell—thereby telling the "keeper of a cloke" it was time to strike the hour on the large bell, the clanging of which could be heard far and wide. In 1410, in the town of Montpelier, the town council became dissatisfied with their clock-keeper and "striker of the hours by night and day" (*pulsator horarum noctibus et diebus*); for not only did he omit to strike the hours correctly but his wages were high. The councillors therefore ordered one of the new clocks from Dijon, which worked without any human agency, for it had a wooden man called Jacomart that automatically struck the bell with a hammer when the hour came for it to do so. Therefore, mediaeval weight-driven clocks, from being originally an alarm for the clock-keeper, later developed into an automatic timekeeper, which first told the hours by striking them on a bell, and afterwards in addition on a dial. With both the bell and the dial the citizens could tell the time by the town clock by day and by night—the hour and its quarters on the dial by day, and the hour only at night by the sound of the bell. The clock from Dover Castle (Fig. 2) is a mediaeval town clock that told the time in this way—by a bell (now missing) and by a dial (also missing).

After the public clock came the chamber or domestic clock, which was a smaller edition; its clockwork being contained in a metal frame with posts at the corners. The two trains—the going and the striking—were designed generally one in front of the other behind the dial; an arrangement which caused many chamber clocks to be square in plan. Mediaeval chamber clocks of an uncommon type were triangular and circular in plan and an astronomical clock made by Giovanni Dondi (circa 1348-64) had an heptagonal frame.

The mediaeval chamber clock hanging on the wall (Fig. 1); for only in this position could the weights drop below—it was therefore a semi-portable clock. On the Continent this mural chamber clock was not uncommon in the fifteenth century, and during the sixteenth century



(Left) 3.—15TH-CENTURY IRON CHAMBER CLOCK WITH FRAME, FOLIOT BALANCE. German. (Webster Collection.) (Centre) 4.—LATE 16TH-CENTURY CHAMBER CLOCK OF EXCEPTIONAL SIZE, WHEEL BALANCE. South German. (Webster Collection.) (Right) 5.—SOUTH GERMAN CHAMBER CLOCK, FOLIOT BALANCE AND DIAL DATED 1558. (Francis Harper Collection)

its production must have steadily increased. The earlier clocks had the foliot balance (Fig. 3) and the later ones the wheel balance (Fig. 4). In 16th-century England, where clock-making was in its infancy and was a branch of the blacksmith's craft, this type of weight-driven chamber clock "with a frame" was made—one would say—in but small numbers. But during the first half of the next century, it began to enjoy considerable popularity; in fact so much so that after 1660 it must have been a common article in many a citizen's home. Such English clocks, which were made of brass, are to-day called lantern clocks.

The first lantern clocks had their escapements regulated by a balance wheel, which oscillated under the dome of the bell. No English mediæval chamber clock has so far been recorded with the foliot balance. But this wheel type of regulator was not fitted much later than 1658, the date of the pendulum, which then became the regulator of all lantern clocks.

The lantern clock continued to be made throughout the eighteenth century, but in this century it became the clock of the countryside rather than the clock of the citizen. In the later clocks the dials became much larger and projected considerably beyond the clock frame, and because of their appearance they were called "sheep's heads"; they were also made square and arched like those of grandfather clocks. The larger dial undoubtedly was in answer to the wish of the country people living in badly lighted cottages.

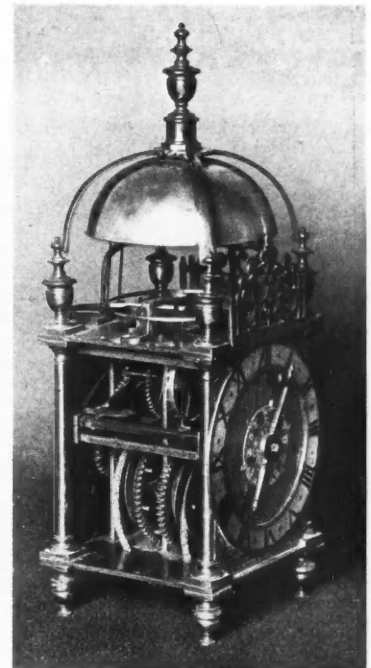
The lantern clock was essentially a clock with one hand; or even in 18th-century examples possessed of two it will be

found that the minute hand is often a later addition. In the case of a clock designed originally with a minute hand, the dial was inscribed with the minutes on the outer edge of the chapter circle. The lantern clock was also essentially one that went for 30 hours, after which time the weights had to be pulled up. Lantern clocks without weights that go by means of a spring are either modern copies, or original clocks that have had their old works replaced by modern, to enable them to stand on a chimneypiece and go for a week without winding.

A noticeable feature of this early school of clock-making was the way that the old

design persisted long after it had been superseded. Mediæval clocks with the foliot balance were still being made on the Continent in the seventeenth century; and the English lantern clock with its four-posted square frame was made as late as the early part of the nineteenth century. The reluctance of the craftsman to give up what he was so well versed in making is not surprising, when it is considered how certain parts of a country long remained immune to progress.

The fashionable wares made for the wealthy changed swiftly, but the local wares of a countryside followed undisturbed the course of the slow-moving wheel of tradition.



(Left) 6.—ENGLISH IRON-CASED LANTERN CLOCK BY JOHN HOLLOWAY. Early seventeenth century. (Webster Collection.) (Centre) 7.—SIDE VIEW OF LANTERN CLOCK SHOWING GOING AND STRIKING TRAINS AND EARLY WHEEL BALANCE ABOVE. (Webster Collection.) (Right) 8.—BRASS-CASED LANTERN CLOCK BY DAVIS MELL, WITH ORIGINAL MINUTE HAND (Temp. Charles II)

GUNBY HALL, LINCOLNSHIRE—I

THE HOME OF FIELD-MARSHAL SIR ARCHIBALD AND LADY MONTGOMERY-MASSINGBERD

Sir William Massingberd, of an Anglo-Saxon family settled near by since the fourteenth century, built the Hall in 1700

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

"A HAUNT of ancient peace" has served as the title of countless pictures since Tennyson wrote *The Palace of Art*. But it must be used for these of Gunby because its much-worn gold was minted here, according to the tradition of the house. In the hall hang the autograph lines:

And one an English home, gray twilight pour'd
On dewy pastures, dewy trees
Softer than sleep—all things in order stored,
A haunt of ancient peace.

A. TENNYSON. '49.

Gunby, between Burgh-le-Marsh and Spilsby, is in the Tennyson country, a few miles only from Somersby. Its having inspired the famous lines can further rest upon their truthful, almost literal, description of the place. Pastures, trees, order; those are the impressions, in that sequence, gained by the visitor to the four-square, warm red brick, Queen Anne house in its level meadow landscape studded by noble trees, the planting and care of which have been a particular interest of successive squires. Then, as one becomes attuned to the atmosphere and learns from all the treasured "things in order stored" the long history of the house and its family, the last line comes as a natural conclusion.

Lincolnshire place-names show the thoroughness of Danish infiltration. Yet Massingberd is pure Anglo-Saxon for "brazen beard," and the early history of Gunby is the story of a Saxon yeoman family's steady climb to reputation. The building of the present house by Sir William, the 2nd baronet, was in the nature of their swan song, for it was under the Tudors that, appropriately enough, the brazen beards were most numerous and dynamic. The direct male line came to an end with the death of the 3rd baronet in 1723. Since then the name has gone with the property through a maze of female lines.

The family is first found, according to Massingberd's *History of Ormsby*, in 1327, when a certain Lambert Massingberd died



1.—MORNING LIGHT AND SHADE ON THE EAST WINDOWS

and was succeeded by his son Alan in lands in Sutterton. The process of forming what long afterwards became the Gunby estate had already begun, for in 1368 there are records of litigation about one and a half acres which Athelina, daughter of William Sourale, brought, or should have brought, as her dower in marriage with Alan. By Henry V's time, in 1414, the latter's grandson Thomas was able to found the family fortune by marrying Juliana, the considerable heiress of Sir Hugh Bernak, of Bernak Hall, Burgh-le-Marsh. Thomas Massingberd went to live in Burgh, probably on the death of his father-in-law, for he was in possession of his lands shortly afterwards. The marriage marks the passing of the Saxon yeomen into the squire

class. The Bernak property in Burgh remained in the family till it was sold in 1817, when an old house on it called the White Hall was pulled down.

In the next generation the eldest son married another heiress, and the younger sons went into commerce, one becoming "citizen and mercer of London" and wedding a daughter of Lord Hoo and Hastings about 1500; a third a "merchant of Boston." Probably they were engaging in the wool trade, for that was the time of the Merchants of the Staple, when Boston exported the wool of the Wolds. At this time, too, there is first mentioned the possession of land in Gunby, a mile across the fields from Burgh.

Sir Thomas, great-grandson of the marriage with the Bernak heiress, in 1495 married Joan Bratoff of Bratoff Hall. Thereby he became possessed of the body of the present Gunby estate, the moated site of old Bratoff Hall being near the present park. He received his knighthood at the coronation of Queen Anne Boleyn. Surviving his wife, he became also a knight of the religious order of St. John of Jerusalem in England. He died in 1552, when he was buried in Gunby Church beneath the brass (Fig. 8) of which the surrounding inscription expresses his

specyale desyres (for) all resnable creatures of
your charyte to gyfe lawde & prays unto . . .
[the Virgin Mary?] queen of everlastyng lyfe. . .

An odd thing about this brass is that it was second-hand—the figures are of a late 14th- or early 15th-century knight and his lady. It is possible that the brass was originally made for Thomas Massingberd of Burgh and his wife Juliana (*née* Bernak), whose deaths occurred some 100 years earlier.

Sir Thomas's eldest son Augustus was evidently striking out a line of his own when he died during his father's lifetime, for he married a lady of Hoxton, County Middlesex, then a favoured domicile of City magnates. The most colourful of that generation, and indeed of the whole family, was the second



2.—THE SOUTH END, CONTAINING THE STAIRCASE



3.—THE ENTRANCE FRONT, FACING WEST

son, Sir Oswald. He followed his father as a Knight of St. John, serving in the defence of Rhodes under the famous "Master fra Philips de Vyters Lysle Adam," whom he accompanied when the Knights moved to Malta. There he was head of the English Tongue till, in 1547, he was appointed Grand Prior of Ireland. As such, Queen Mary confirmed his occupation of Kilmainham Hospital, but under Elizabeth the Order was proscribed and Sir Oswald sought safety in flight to a destination and death unknown.

A by-product of the Staple connection may be the association, otherwise perplexing, of several Massingberds with Calais under the Tudors. Sir Thomas's third son became Alderman of Calais, and Augustin's eldest son, Thomas, sat in Edward VI's Parliament as M.P. for Calais. A family document accounts for his membership by his "war-like behaviour" in the fighting about Calais, and adds that he was so strong a Protestant that he kept out of England during Mary's reign. Talking with Sir Nicolas Bacon he once expressed such abhorrence of the very name *mass* that, he said, it should be abolished from the language, and such words as Michaelmas be changed to Michaeltide. To which Sir Nicolas wittily replied: "I agree with you, Master Tidenbeard."

Of his other sons, Christopher was Clerk

of the Council of Calais in 1548, prior to its final loss to the French under Mary; and another, marrying a Miss Clayton of London, had a son Oswald who became a goldsmith of London and Farnham, whose son, an eminent merchant residing at Tooting under

Charles I, became Treasurer to the East India Company. Two daughters married respectively the Earl of Berkeley and Lord Willoughby d'Eresby.

This was the zenith of the Massingberd family's reputation. Centred on Bratoft



(Right) 4.—ROAD STEPS TO THE ENTRANCE TERRACE



5.—A GLIMPSE OF THE PIGEON-HOUSE BORDER



Hall, the younger sons and uncles had won to wealth and position during the expansion of commerce under the Tudors. During the Civil Wars, Henry, great grandson of "Master Tidenbeard," reigned at Bratoft. Though he did his best subsequently to conceal the fact, he co-operated with the Parliament, actually serving as High Sheriff in the Commonwealth and accepting a baronetcy from Cromwell in 1658. This was recreated at the Restoration—a remarkable tribute to his tact. It was his son, Sir William, who succeeded him in 1680, and, marrying Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Wynne of London, built the present house, dying in 1719. His son, also Sir William, M.P., died unmarried at his house in Golden Square in 1723, when the baronetcy and the direct male line became extinct.

The site chosen for the new house adjoins the old church of Gunby, and may occupy part of that of the original village, all traces of which have vanished. As built, the house was an oblong of nine bays and three storeys with a basement, the entrance facing west and nearly all the windows in the south end blank except for the Venetian window of the staircase. The



6.—INSIDE THE PIGEON-HOUSE: THE REVOLVING LADDER OR POTENCE

low wing to the north was added about 1870, towards the stable yard, where a range of coach-houses, dated 1735, was built at right angles to the arched entrance to the yard (Figs. 7 and 9) by William Meux Massingberd. A sketch of about 1810 shows the entry front prolonged by low screen walls each containing an arched doorway.

The front, indeed the whole building, is a perfect example of a typical Queen Anne house (actually built at the end of William III's reign, the date 1700 being given by the inscribed keystone of the front door). The brick used is a beautiful deep plum in colour. The tradition is that many were re-used from old Bratoft Hall, a building contemporary with Tattershall Castle, and were shipped from Holland at the same time. The Tattershall bricks, however, are now known to have been made close at hand, and, while some of the material of Bratoft Hall may have been used, it is unlikely that, in a brick country and period, old bricks should have been cleaned and re-used. The building as a whole bears a near resemblance to Fyde House, the fine contemporary mansion in Boston. In design and conception it is, indeed, a town house deriving its lines and proportions from

(Left) 7.—THE STABLE ENTRY

The clock-cote, from Hook Place, Hampshire (1778), erected here in 1917 for Major Stephen Massingberd



9.—THE STABLES FROM THE PIGEON-HOUSE GARDEN

(Left) 8.—BRASS (14TH-CENTURY, RE-USED) TO SIR THOMAS MASSINGBERD AND LADY MASSINGBERD (JOAN BRATOFT). HE DIED IN 1552

those laid down for "houses of the greater sort" by the London Building Act of 1667. Its designer was almost certainly one of the mason- or carpenter-builders of the time who derived their training directly or indirectly from the re-building of London, and, from the Massingberds's family connections with the City, it is probable that he was a London man rather than from the locality.

No formal lay-out, if any existed, survived alterations to the grounds early in the nineteenth century, but has been effectively replaced by clipped yew hedges enclosing the west lawns, and a paved path on the axis of the entrance. To the north-east of the house, however, to the right of the great cedar seen in Fig. 1, flower and kitchen gardens are enclosed by old walls linked with the stables (Fig. 9) and evidently preserve something of the original arrangement. The space is divided by an east-west wall pierced by an arch (Fig. 5), which meets a north-south wall joining an apple house at one end and an old brick pigeon-house surmounted by a charming wind-vane at the other. The latter contains its original revolving gallows-like framework or potence supporting a ladder, (Fig. 6), by which the pigeon-holes can be reached.

On both sides of the communicating arch is a deep herbaceous border against the west wall where even agapanthus is naturalised in the deep warm soil. Against the west wall of the pigeon-house is a pretty wooden garden seat with a dome supported on columns, brought from another part of the grounds. But a garden plan of about 1800 indicates that the arrangement hereabouts has been much altered since. The plan is accompanied by a list of wall fruits of that date. This includes, among apricots, the orange, Turkey, Brussels, Breda, Portugal and More Park; Temple, Newington, Murray, Roman and Fairchild's nectarines; the Colmar, Germain, Chaumontel, Red Buerry, and Jargone; pears; Green gage, Blue gage, Precos de Tour, and Roche Charbon plums; and Noblesse, Early Royal George, Late Admirable, Red Magdal, and Millet's Mignon peaches. Ribston and Golden Pippin, and Nonsuch were the favourite apples. Few, if any, of these old varieties are still growing here, but a recital of their names gives colour and detail to the picture of peaceful continuity.

(To be concluded)



10.—"A HAUNT OF ANCIENT PEACE"

A WAR-TIME COURSE

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

THE other day I received a letter from an officer now on service "somewhere in England" telling me of a home-made nine-hole course he had constructed for the benefit of those under his command, and the story is so inspiring, and might be so inspiring to others similarly situated, that I propose to retell it. I must be careful of what I say, but I suppose there is no harm in revealing that this course is somewhere in the Lake country, which, as everybody knows, is one of rocks and hills, by no means ideally suited to golf. The turf in such country can indeed be very agreeable. I remember some of the most heavenly turf, a little mossy and soft perhaps, on the top of a lonely Welsh hill, where there is a lake with an island of rhododendrons, and my rather faint recollection of playing at Windermere was of pleasant yielding lies of much the same character. Still it is not, I imagine, the kind of land on which an amateur architect, with very little money or machinery at his disposal, would choose to make his maiden effort.

In that sentence, it is true, I have done my officer some injustice, for this was his second course; he had laid out his first during the last war in the neighbourhood of the Poperinghe Canal, which was its chief and most destructive hazard. This must have been a curious game, for there were no clubs and balls of an orthodox character, and it was played with six heavy walking-sticks and a dozen old lawn tennis balls. Apparently it was very popular, and there is indeed something satisfying in hitting a tennis ball; it soars comfortably into the air and the least expert can hardly miss the globe. I remember a good many years ago walking across the Park from Marble Arch and standing entranced for some minutes watching an old gentleman playing this game with a Dandie Dinmont, whom I instantly christened Pepper after the original Dandie of Charlie's-hope. The old gentleman put down his tall hat on the grass, took a prolonged waggle with his neatly rolled umbrella and drove the ball stoutly away with its ivory handle, while Pepper pursued and retrieved it in ecstasy. I even invented a little story of how the old gentleman had once played golf regularly at every week-end but found himself coming home tired and dispirited and so gradually took to the umbrella and the tennis ball to the mutual satisfaction of himself and Pepper.

However, the memory of that engaging game has sent me wandering far from the point and I must return to my officer and his course. The three rules he laid down for himself were to keep the walking as level as possible, since he had the misfortune to lose a leg in the last war; to use the best bits of turf for the greens, laying out the holes to fit them, and to avoid blind holes at all costs. A neighbouring green-keeper kindly came over to help and gave him some "tips" as to leaf-mould for the greens, and gradually the course took shape. It is not, in point of length, a championship course since the holes vary in distance between 95 and 285 yds., but the course is a little longer than it sounds, for there is never a yard of run on the ball, and in point of narrowness no championship course can approach it. Twenty-five yards is the average width of the fairway, and 25 yds. is not what Bob Acres would have called "a good distance"; far from it. If the ball does not keep within these limits I gather that it is either lost in impenetrable rough or runs down a steep precipice, necessitating a fearful climb down, an equally fearful recovery shot, and then a climb back again. The visiting green-keeper declared that it was the hardest course he had ever played on, and I should think he was probably right.

Moreover there are three other little difficulties which I have not mentioned, namely that the sheep will get through the wire surrounding the greens, that heavy draught-horses have no respect whatever for the course, and that forestry tractors periodically turn these

exiguous fairways into liquid mud 12 ins. deep. These are certainly discouraging circumstances and yet the course has been very popular with a few of the men and more particularly with the N.C.Os. There are inter-mess competitions when the weather, for this is a rainy place, and duty allow, and the keenness is so great that my correspondent says that he is sometimes to be seen surrounded by a ring of eager sergeants, whom he is lecturing on the fundamental principles of the game and the virtues of slow back and the eye on the ball.

I cannot help thinking how delighted the shade of John Ball would be if news of this course ever reached the Elysian fields. It is the splendid austerity of the fairways that would please him, for he constantly inveighed against the wide ones which less accurate players prefer. I don't know whether he ever laid out a hole in his life, but if he did I am convinced that it had soon to be mitigated by general clamour and not allowed to be so fierce. I don't think we realise how wide our fairways are (I am far from wanting them narrower) and what a considerable margin of error they allow us. Twenty-five yards is very narrow indeed. If we imagine ourselves hitting a full-blooded wooden club shot into a width very little greater than that of a cricket pitch, with appalling trouble on either hand, we must take off our hats in profound admiration to those sergeants. The shorter one grows the less likely is one to go into the rough; it is one of the few consolations of advancing age and the foundation of many

THE STORY OF BARBED WIRE

By M. V. MORDEN

FEW of the later 19th-century inventions have been more generally disliked than barbed wire; yet during the last 50 years it has found its way into almost every corner of the earth. It has transformed a British steamer on the Yangtze river into a bird-cage that no pirate might come aboard, and was used by the Italians for the 200-mile boundary fence which they put up in 1933 between Libya and Egypt. It can surround an 8,000-acre estate in Arizona or an allotment of a road outside one of our towns, and it has become an efficient and adaptable engine of war.

In the wilder parts of County Derry in the early part of the last century, hay-ropes strung with thorns served as adequate substitutes for gates and were an ominous forerunner of barbed wire. There are various legends as to whose brain first thought of reproducing the principles of a thorn fence in steel. One of the more feasible is that a blacksmith, driven to desperation by the marauding habits of a neighbour's pigs, twisted sharp-ended strips of wire at intervals round a length of the same material to make a trespass-proof fence round his garden.

AMERICAN ORIGIN

Some suitable invention usually follows on a pressing need, and it was the rapid agricultural expansion in the mid-west States of America during the second half of the last century that eventually called barbed wire into being. The stock-breeders—the ranchers—found spread before them an apparently limitless territory, with an elastic frontier ever able to be stretched westwards. The Government's policy was to induce a proper tilling of the land, and to support the orthodox farmers rather than those following a purely pastoral life. So the farmers followed close on the heels of the ranchers, and it was only by means of extensive fencing that they were able to secure the new-won land, and protect their dairy cattle and crops from the roaming herds of their immediate predecessors. Post-and-rail fences were used; rough barriers of rock and bush were erected; hedges of *bois d'arc* or osage orange were planted; but these could offer no solution to

a spurious reputation for accuracy; but even so I should be tempted to take the pusillanimous iron to some of those tee shots and should not feel over-confident even then.

However good so uniquely severe a test might be for our conceit, I am not convinced that it would be wholly good for our golf. I doubt, for instance, when any of those sergeants will produce among them a driver of the prowess of Mr. Edward Blackwell or Douglas Rolland. Unless they are players of an almost reckless bravery they will hardly learn to hit out; their swings will be cramped by the rough so awfully crowding in upon them. It is not even certain that they will obey their commanding officer's orders to keep the head down; they will be tempted to raise it prematurely to see into what wilderness or rocky defile that precious ball has flown. Probably the best educational background for the commencing golfer is one where there is plenty of room, with no Poperinghe Canal or other horror looming too near. Thus he acquires a good free swing which will be a friend to him all his life. I think I have heard George Duncan express his thankfulness for having been brought up at Aberdeen where there was ample space, and I have no doubt he was right. When the young player has learnt to hit out fearlessly, he may shift his place of education to a secondary school, where the rough threatens him on either hand and he will then discover how to curb his impetuosity without losing the essential freedom of his swing. The ball "maun be hit," and the danger is that the sergeants will be tempted to try to steer it, which is a different matter. However, there is one good thing. When, in happier times, they come to play on a less exigent course, what a beautifully easy game they will deem golf, even though the holes do seem rather long!

the urgent demand for hundreds of miles of stock-proof fences.

In 1874 a practical Illinois farmer Joseph Glidden, and Jacob Haish both filed applications at the patent office to protect their respective discovery of barbed wire. It is Glidden who is usually credited as being the first inventor, and to this day the commonest form of two-strand wire with the barbs fastened to one wire only still goes by the name of Glidden. He and an employee made their first barbed wire in a barn. An old coffee-mill was used for bending short wires into barbs, and these were then slipped on to the wire and fastened into position by hammer-blows. The second strand of wire was twisted round the first—that to which the barbs were fixed—with the aid of a discarded grindstone handle. At first the barbed wire was made in lengths of about 40 ft.; later the strands grew to a hundred feet.

FENCE-CUTTING

During that same year Glidden and Ellwood, neighbouring farmers, went into partnership and formed the Barbed Wire Company. There was a demand for their product from the first; but there was also great opposition to the invention, and fence-cutting reached such dimensions that in 1884 a law was passed to deal with the abuse. Large-scale farmers—big-pasture men they were called—were forced to provide gates in their fences every three miles, and people caught using wire-cutters were to be prosecuted.

It is natural that, having been the pioneers of this product, Americans should still use it more extensively than any other people. Its use has spread to the Argentine and to Australia, but both those countries use a much larger proportion of plain wire fencing.

By 1890 barbed wire had come to England, and so great a commotion did its appearance cause that in 1893 the Barbed Wire Act was passed—"An Act to prevent the use of Barbed Wire for Fences in Roads, Streets, Lanes, and other Thoroughfares." In effect the Act dealt only with barbed wire placed on land adjoining a highway of any kind and ordained that it

must be so erected as to cause no nuisance to users of the road or track.

"Confound all farmers, say I, wot mend their fences with old wire-ropes," exploded John Jorrocks when Master of the Handley Cross Hunt in pre-Victorian days. What he would have said had the wire-ropes been fortified with spikes would doubtless have been unprintable.

Sportsmen of the '90s registered violent protest. At least one M.F.H. resigned his mastership owing to the appearance of "that abomination" and landlords protected themselves from the encroachment of barbed wire on their property by inserting clauses in their tenants' leases forbidding its use. But its growth was insidious; and with the breaking up of so many large estates and the constant struggle against uneconomic agricultural prices, coupled with the unhappy financial state of farmers as a whole, it gradually spread over the whole countryside. A mile of barbed wire

fencing could be put up for less money and in a quarter of the time expended on a stout post-and-rail fence, and even a badly erected wire fence was quickly recognised as being more serviceable than a hedge of medium quality.

In actual fact barbed wire presented a far greater menace to fox-hunting than did ever the coming of the railways. The reason for this is that occupiers of land who allow access to others are under a legal obligation to warn them of hidden dangers. Now the majority of fox-hunters are in the nature of guests, dependent upon the hospitality of those who own or occupy the land over which they ride in the pursuit of their sport. According to the law the courtesy of those who permit others to come on to their land brings with it the liability to protect them from certain dangers. Therefore the sportsman who suffers injury through taking a toss over concealed wire has, strictly speaking, the right to claim damages from whoever allowed the

wire to be there without advertising the fact of its presence. It is not difficult to imagine how many of the farms and small holdings in this country would have remained accessible to the various hunts had followers chosen to avail themselves of compensation after an accident.

Barbed wire has come to stay. We may hate it for a variety of reasons; but it is efficient for the purpose for which it was invented—to keep out trespassers or straying animals.

Despite the fact that to-day barbed wire seems to be twined through nearly every hedge and to be the most popular form of fence in existence, production in this country has lagged far behind that in the United States. In 1900 200,000 tons were manufactured in America, whereas our factories produced none. Twenty-four years later, when the Americans' output was about the same, ours was only 9,700 tons.

THE MYSTERY OF BIRD "ANTING"

By FRANK W. LANE

ONE of the minor ornithological mysteries is why birds use ants as part of their toilet. Whatever the explanation may be, the habit has been attested too often by various observers in several countries for there to be any doubt about its occurrence.

Charles K. Nichols, writing in the American bird journal *Auk*, says he saw on his lawn an American robin, which is similar to a British thrush, going through some remarkable actions. The bird picked up something from the ground and then quickly placed it under one of its partly opened wings and sometimes on the underside of its tail. Frequently the bird lost its balance and fell on its back. In addition to these actions it sometimes pressed its breast to the grass and partly rotated its body with the breast as pivot.

Later another robin appeared on the scene, drove the first one away and after settling on the same spot on the lawn went through similar actions. The second robin was in turn replaced by a third which occupied the favoured spot for a few minutes. Thereafter the birds took "turn and turn about." When Nichols examined the spot, while the birds were momentarily frightened away, he found a swarm of about 100 ants milling excitedly about a space a foot or so square.

The next observation concerns two tame jays which used to fly about a farm. Whenever an ants' nest was laid bare in the course of the farm work the two birds trod on it, and this stimulated the ants to shower the birds' feathers with their acid ejections. Sometimes the jays wallowed in the nest. They often raised their tails and sat down and then almost immediately turned on their shoulders. The jays stayed on the nest for periods up to a quarter of an hour. They then flew away and shook and preened themselves as after a water bath.

One other field observation may be given. Josselyn Van Tyne prefaces the following record of what he saw by the statement: "I never fully believed in the occurrence of this most improbable phenomenon (bird 'anting') until I recently saw it with my own eyes."

Soon after sunset one evening in July, he writes, he saw a male American robin preening itself on the lawn 15 ft. from his window. "The bird was preening much more vigorously than is customary and his actions were further remarkable for the frequency with which he preened in a single motion the whole outer edge of the wing from wrist to tip. In fact, this wing preening was done so violently that the bird repeatedly fell down at the end of the preening motion, and once this ended in a complete somersault."

"Sometimes the bird preened the tail or body in a large, but more often he concerned himself with the wing. Almost immediately I noticed that nearly every preening was preceded by a busy picking of some small object from the ground, and I realised that here at last was a bird 'anting.' Several times the robin crouched and seemed to rub its body against the ground."

To these and the many other existing records of observations on anting there has recently been added a complete account of the habit witnessed under controlled conditions. H. R. Ivor scattered some earth, containing several hundred ants, over a part of the floor of his aviary and then he lay down on the ground close to the birds to watch their reactions. Some of the birds actually anted on his hand. Sixteen experiments were carried out altogether and 20 out of the 31 species of birds in the aviary were observed to ant. About a score of other species have been reported by other observers to ant.

Ivor says: "The moment an ant was sighted by any bird which anted, there seemed to be an instantaneous and instinctive reaction. The ant was picked up and held in the tip of the bill; the eyes were partly closed; the wing was held out from the body but only partly spread; the wrist was drawn forward and raised, thus bringing the tips of the primaries far forward and touching the ground; the tail was always brought forward and under to some extent, on the same side as the extended wing, and often so far that the feet were placed upon it. Stepping on the tail at times caused the bird to fall on its side or even on its back."

The bird seizing the ant rubbed it swiftly only on the ventral surface of the primary wing feathers. After being used for anting the ant was often, though not invariably, eaten.

Enthusiasm for anting varied with the season, the favourite period being between April and July. Ivor adds: "During the height of the anting season the act of anting seemed to engender a state of ecstasy so overwhelming that even domination and enmity were forgotten . . . at times from twenty to thirty birds would be going through the performance at one time on a space of four or five square feet, where they were continually bumping against one another."

Confirmation of Ivor's belief that anting is instinctive is found in the reactions of young birds when confronted with ants. Young starlings, taken from the nest and given some ants, dressed their plumage just as in the case of adult birds. A young dipper when first presented with some ants, seized one after another in its beak and passed them through its feathers.



A RARE PHOTOGRAPH OF A BIRD IN THE PROCESS OF "ANTING"

Photograph by Hugh M. Halliday, reproduced by courtesy of "Auk"

Why do birds ant themselves? Various theories have been propounded. One suggestion is that the bird is stimulated by the crawling of the insects, their tiny bites and acid secretions. The pleasure may be akin to that derived from the ruffling of a bird's feathers by a human hand.

Another suggestion is that birds resort to anting to rid themselves of parasites. The formic acid secreted by ants has antiseptic properties. Birds have been seen to hold ants in a way that would indicate that the bird was trying to make the ants spray their acid on the feathers. Incidentally, a tame jay has been known to intercept the spurting sap from an orange that was being peeled. The bird went through the motions of bathing at the same time. This behaviour occurred more than once.

One observer says he has seen ants seize the parasites on a crow which was anting and bear them away. In this connection it is interesting to learn that in some parts of the world ants are sometimes used to remove vermin from clothes. The infected garments are placed on large ant-hills and, when collected, they are found to be freed from vermin.

One other apparent use of anting was mentioned long ago by Audubon. He says young Eastern turkeys "roll themselves in deserted ants' nests to clear their growing feathers of the loose scales and prevent ticks and other vermin from attacking them, these insects being unable to bear the odour of the earth in which ants have been."

A FOUR-YEAR PLAN FOR AGRICULTURE—II

FUTURE LIVESTOCK POLICY

By W. S. MANSFIELD (*Director of the University Farm and University Lecturer in Agriculture, Cambridge*)

THE changes that have taken place in our farming in this country during the past four years have been remarkable, and nearly all of them changes for the better. There is no doubt that the agricultural policy pursued by the Government has been justified up to the hilt. Not only has it provided us with the food of which we were in such sore need, but it has put new life into the industry, and has been the means of bringing much neglected farm land back into a good state of cultivation.

The improvement in the general level of cultivation has been marked—more marked perhaps in some districts than in others—but is very noticeable everywhere. It is to be feared, however, that there has been no corresponding improvement in our animal husbandry. Attention during the past four years has been concentrated largely on crop production—a larger area of crops, better crops and crops of the kind which the emergency demanded. Now it is the turn of livestock to receive similar attention. The sequence is logical, for the situation demanded a rapid increase in the

it demands not only more stock but better stock. Indeed, it could be argued that a policy directed merely to increasing numbers without increasing efficiency would defeat its own ends. To be effective the aim must be twofold, a large increase in our cattle and sheep population, together with an improvement in their quality. To accomplish either is not easy, and for biological reasons the process cannot be speeded up beyond a certain point, but to accomplish both simultaneously is an extremely difficult task. Nevertheless it can be done, and the success of the farming community during the past four years in accomplishing what in many quarters was regarded as impossible encourages the belief that it will be done.

The improvement of livestock is a theme upon which much could be written, but to which only a small space can be devoted here. During the next few years particular attention will probably be devoted to the improvement of cattle, as this is the direction which is likely to yield the best and most certain return for the effort expended, and this in its turn will be found to reduce itself to the improvement of

The shortage of good bulls, particularly of good dairy bulls, is clearly the matter that requires most urgently to be remedied. Steps must be taken to see that more bulls are reared from suitable cows in milk-recorded herds, and if this alone is insufficient, then it is imperative that more herds should be recorded. The present standards of bull licensing can only be raised provided that the minimum number of bulls required is not thereby jeopardised. Actually, there should be no difficulty in increasing the supply of good bulls, for the suitable cows are already there; it only remains to see that the bull calves from these cows are not slaughtered but are reared for stock purposes. It may be a matter of surprise that such calves have not been reared in the past. But there has been little incentive. To rear a young bull as it should be reared is both expensive and troublesome, and if at the end the rearer finds that he cannot recoup himself he is not encouraged to repeat the experiment. There are districts where farmers expect to pay less for their bulls than they do for their steers; so long as this attitude persists, good bull calves that ought to be reared will continue to be slaughtered.

Not only must the supply of good bulls be increased, but the demand for them must also be stimulated. There must be a very large number of herds in the country which consist of fewer than ten cows. It is difficult to see how such herds can afford to keep a bull at all, let alone a really good one. Here the answer would seem to be artificial insemination, and it is likely that in the course of time, and provided the present experimental stations prove successful, insemination centres will be established in districts where these small herds predominate.

BREEDING POLICY NEEDED

Though the use of better bulls is clearly the first step towards improvement, this of itself is not enough, for a general improvement in our cattle will not result unless the type of bull best suited to each particular herd is used, and the use of bulls of the same type persisted in. The best Aberdeen-Angus bull in the world is doing positive harm if he is used on Jersey cows, and though this may seem an extreme case, a Jersey bull used on a herd of dual-purpose Shorthorns, a far commoner occurrence, is equally out of place. Farmers must be persuaded to make up their minds as to what type of animal it is that they really want to breed, and, having once made up their minds, to continue to pursue the same breeding policy. The improvement of our cattle is not simply a matter of improving our bulls, but also involves ensuring that these improved bulls are rightly used. A declared breeding policy on every farm must be the aim.

A statement on a future livestock policy which contents itself simply with emphasising the need for both more and better stock is, however, quite inadequate. What the industry requires is some sort of guidance as to the directions which expansion should take. This is clearly a very difficult matter, and in the absence of any official statement can only be a matter of conjecture. Even so, in the light of circumstances already known, it may be possible to make a few shrewd guesses. The big increase in the consumption of liquid milk is surely one pointer. How far the tremendous demand for milk which now exists will persist after the war, when other products now unobtainable will again be available, is perhaps doubtful, but there can be little doubt that the post-war consumption of liquid milk is likely to exceed that of pre-war days by a very large quantity. Even in pre-war days the supply of winter milk was no more than equal to the demand. It would appear, therefore, that there will be room for a considerable increase in milk production, particularly in the production of winter milk. This does not necessarily mean that many more dairy herds will be kept, but that



THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY FARM HERD OF GRADED-UP DAIRY SHORTHORNS

The herd was started some eighteen years ago with cows and heifers bought locally, which have since been graded up by the use of good pedigree bulls. The majority of the herd are now full pedigree, though there are still a few "Cs" and rather more "D" class animals

supplies of human food, such as could only be achieved by the increased production of those foods capable of being fed directly into human stomachs. This increase having been achieved, it is now possible to direct attention to animal production, to an increased production of animals and animal products, a more efficient production and the fostering of a livestock policy calculated to meet the future needs of our country.

Increased production of animals and animal products demands an increased animal population. This is desirable, not only as an end in itself, but is also necessary if the present level of crop production is to be maintained, for this can be done only if fertility is kept up by converting straw and other by-products into manure. Not only does the great increase in the production of human food crops mean more by-products available for stock feeding, but in addition there is the increased area of leys—infinitely more productive in hay and grazing than the permanent grass that they have replaced—together with the increased area of fodder crops which the rotational farming of our vastly extended arable acreage necessarily involves. The need for more livestock, particularly cattle and sheep, hence becomes insistent.

But if animal production is to be increased,

bulls, and an effort to induce all breeders of cattle to adopt a definite breeding policy.

That many of the bulls now in use are by no means satisfactory, judged by any standard is generally admitted. For this the Ministry of Agriculture's livestock officers are often quite unjustly blamed, for they can do no more than administer the law, and if the present Bull Licensing Act is carefully studied it will be recognised how restricted the livestock officer is in what he does. If we are to be honest we must frankly admit that the licensing of bulls has not led to the improvement in our cattle that had been hoped and expected. But it is unfair to place the whole of the blame upon the shoulders of the livestock officers, for even if they were given more freedom of action they still could not license bulls which were not there, and the plain fact is that a sufficient number of good bulls has not been forthcoming. It appears that with our present cow population we require about 40,000 young bulls to be licensed each year. If we increase our cattle we shall, of course, need proportionately more. But at the present time, of these 40,000 young bulls something like 27,000 are from cows that cannot be identified, and only 18 per cent. of the dairy or dual-purpose bulls are from officially recorded cows.

those that already exist will be increased, that a higher average yield of milk per cow will be aimed at, and that, in those districts where formerly farms consisted entirely of grass and where summer milk was largely concentrated upon, an increased quantity of winter milk will be produced. Winter milk production involves a proportion of arable land, and it is to be hoped that after the war, as a result of the lessons learned during the war, the all-grass farm will be a thing of the past.

An expansion in milk production can therefore be anticipated—though how great an expansion it is impossible to predict. It can, however, be predicted with some certainty that the expansion of the dairy industry will not of itself be sufficient. If the system of alternate husbandry comes to be widely practised (and there is every indication that it will be) then the quantity of stock food available will demand an expansion in the direction of both beef and mutton as well. But whether this will mean an increase in the breeding herds of beef cattle is uncertain. Everybody will agree that a beef-bred beast is a deal from the point of view of the feeder, but there are few who would assert that in a post-war world it is likely to be profitable to keep a cow for a whole year for the sake of one weanling calf, unless beef is the price of salmon.

A BY-PRODUCT OF THE DAIRY

No doubt there will always be certain farms where the breeding of beef-cattle will still be economic, and it is to be hoped that more beef herds will in future be kept on hill farms where there would seem to be considerable scope for this form of production. But even so, it is to be doubted if the supply of beef-bred stores will keep pace with the demand, and one is therefore driven to the conclusion that if beef is to be produced in this country at a reasonable price, then the raw material must be supplied by the dairy herds. In other words, beef must be a by-product of the dairy.

It is often suggested that many dairy herds could with advantage use a beef bull, and thus provide a large number of calves which could be reared profitably and which would ultimately make good carcasses of beef. So no doubt they would, but the suggestion has serious drawbacks. If all the calves so bred, both male and female, are used for beef production—as they certainly should be—then the herd which breeds them fails to be self-supporting in the matter of replacements, and has to rely on purchased cows or heifers with all the attendant dangers and disadvantages. To meet this drawback it has been suggested that the poor yielding cows in a herd should be mated to a beef bull, and that the best cows only should be mated to a dairy bull in order to breed heifers for replacement. This is an excellent suggestion on paper, but in practice—owing to the high wastage among dairy cows common in most herds—it will be found that if it is adopted an insufficient number of heifers will be forthcoming to maintain the herd.

What is the solution? Where are the large numbers of store cattle that we shall require to come from? The answer is surely that the breeding of dual-purpose cattle should be encouraged. After all, this is the type of animal which is peculiarly the product of our own genius, and which is still a prime favourite with the majority of our farmers.

DUAL-PURPOSE CATTLE

It is sometimes asserted by those who should know better that there are no such things as dual-purpose cattle. This is manifestly untrue, as the writer is prepared to demonstrate. Admittedly to breed dual-purpose cattle successfully requires more skill than single-purpose. But failure in an attempt to breed dual-purpose cattle does not prove that there are no such things, but rather lack of skill on the part of the breeder. A herd of deep-bodied, short-legged cows which average 800 gallons of milk each year, and whose bull calves can be profitably reared into good-class beef, is within the compass of any intelligent farmer. Such a herd has the additional advantage that it can be fed largely on home-produced roughages and does not require excessive quantities of imported concentrates, which are likely to

be both scarce and dear for many years to come. It is significant that within the last few years many overseas visitors to such a herd have expressed the opinion that similar cattle were exactly what were required in the countries from which they themselves came, rather than the single-purpose cattle which they now have.

We all deplore the decrease in the sheep population in the past few years, particularly the decrease in the folded flocks. We must, however, admit that the war has only accelerated a process that began many years previously. For much the same reasons that make it unlikely to be profitable to keep a cow for a year for the sake of one reared calf, it would seem that it is unlikely to be profitable in the future to keep an arable land flock of breeding ewes. The cost of the labour involved is prohibitive, unless the resulting product is of very high value. This condition may well be fulfilled in the case of ram-breeding flocks, for the demand for rams of Down breeds for crossing purposes is likely to persist. But it can hardly be expected that the price of even early fat lamb, let alone the price of fat sheep, will be sufficiently high to warrant their production at such high cost. It is true that the benefits of folded sheep cannot be measured simply in terms of the direct profit that they earn. There is the indirect profit in the increased amount of corn that may be grown as the result of the folding. But it is unlikely that in the future farmers will be able and willing to face substantial losses on folded sheep in the expectation of recouping the losses by subsequent corn crops.

UNSTEADINESS IN GUN-DOGS

By CAPTAIN J. B. DROUGHT

IDARESAY others besides myself have noticed in places where they shoot more or less regularly every year that the most common fault among retrievers is a tendency to run in. Dogs which are good game-finders, quick in the up-take, tender-mouthed, and for the most part obedient, exhibit just that streak of unreliability which makes it impossible entirely to trust them not to chase.

Of course the best-trained dog will once in a way take the law into his own hands, but as a rule there is a very definite excuse; his action is probably due to misunderstanding of his handler, and he desists on command. But I think the reason why so many dogs show inconsistency of behaviour in this respect is either that they have been too much rushed in the earlier stages of their education, or that their trainers have not fully satisfied themselves as to their charges' ability to resist temptation before putting them to work at a formal shoot.

PRIMAL INSTINCT

It has to be remembered that the transition from attendance on his master, shooting an odd bird or so solus, to all the pomp and circumstance of a shooting party, where there are many guns, many dogs, and birds falling all over the place, is a tremendous strain on a young dog's nerves. Obviously, to run in or chase is the primal instinct of any sporting animal; wherefore pent-up feelings, which can no longer be restrained, find their natural expression in this manner, unless the importance of rock steadiness in face of any and every temptation has been thoroughly instilled beforehand.

It is no exaggeration to say that the period at which a puppy seems to have learnt his lessons is the very one at which the trainer should be most sceptical. Very often the wish is father to the thought. A dog performs his task satisfactorily on two or three occasions and the trainer, instead of making assurance doubly sure by the most searching tests, assumes that his dog is word-perfect before he has in reality mastered his grammar.

The danger is that a fault so easily develops into a habit, and in this instance a habit particularly difficult to eradicate. Many a retriever puppy develops the tendency to chase because of his trainer's anxiety not to curb too severely his activities in the earlier stages of his career

It would therefore seem most unlikely that there will be any large revival of arable sheep breeding. This is not to say that there should not and will not be a revival of sheep folding. Because the arable land ewe flock is unprofitable, it does not follow that the same applies to fattening sheep. With a system of alternate husbandry grass-land ewe flocks are likely to increase. Replenishments for flocks of this sort are drawn from the hills. The demand for such ewes as Border Leicester x Cheviots is certain to be keen and may well exceed the supply, greatly to the advantage of the hill farms whence they come. These ewes when mated with rams of one of the Down breeds produce lambs which are suitable in every way for fattening on the fold. This must be the future source of supply of store sheep to which the arable land farms must turn, particularly those who farm the type of land where the folding of sheep is an almost imperative need.

The picture of the sheep industry of the future is clearly outlined. The hills maintain those hardy active sheep that, when suitably mated, give the grass-land or "ley" farmer his thrifty and prolific ewes. These in turn when mated to Down rams produce the fat grass lambs and store sheep suitable for fattening on roots in the winter. The room for expansion in the sheep industry on these lines is almost limitless, provided always that some orderly system of marketing is adopted and that care is taken not to glut the market with fat lambs in July and August. For in death as well as in life, a sheep's worst enemy is another sheep.

lest the game-finding instinct should be unduly checked.

Most people naturally prefer a bold dog to one without an atom of initiative, and admittedly one of the most difficult phases of early training is to hit the happy medium. Allowances must be made for youthful impetuosity. Too much restraint is as bad as too little. Moreover, no two men handle a dog alike, nor do different dog-temperaments respond to the same kind of handling. The only generalisation, perhaps, which can be made is that every puppy according to his nature should be allowed the utmost liberty, provided it does not develop into licence.

It is very often when a young dog has made a few respectable retrieves, and acquired an extra keenness thereby, that his ardour to bring back anything and everything gets the better of him and he runs in at top speed. That is the time when to gloss over the fault is to court disaster. For the puppy, naturally, will rather fancy his performance, which he will proceed to repeat at the first possible opportunity, and, if a further crime of a similar nature is allowed to go unpunished, most of the good of his former training will be undone. Therefore the fault must be checked instantly and at the place where it was committed. It is no use waiting for ten minutes or so and then punishing the animal, for by that time he will fail to connect cause and effect. Bring him back to the exact spot and head-on to the direction in which he bolted, and first appeal to his better feelings by such admonition as experience has shown to be the most effective.

REPRIMANDS

It must be remembered that the dog's feelings may still be in such a state of exuberance that a mild expression of disappointment will not sink in. On the decisiveness and promptness of your tone will depend your ability to keep the dog from a similar course of action the next time a tempting situation arises. Whatever you do, don't nag at the dog—a mistake which is commonly made. Short and sharp should be the reprimand in phrasing with which the animal is fully acquainted.

If you have been able to arrest his rush before he has made a real bolt of it, and can reduce him to a sense of shame by word of mouth, the probability is that

he will not disgrace himself again, or even if he does, it will be a half-hearted effort which a rather sharper admonition will nip in the bud.

If, however, the dog is really headstrong and persists in his unlawful course, even though he may retrieve the object to hand you cannot afford to accept it. You may take it and throw it away at once, thereby showing him your displeasure, and then there is nothing for it but a taste of the whip. As before, punish him at the place from which he ran in, taking him thither under arrest, so to speak, and in between

the strokes of corporal punishment read him your admonition in no uncertain tone.

In respect of chastisement I would like to suggest that the whip be regarded as the symbol of punishment rather than its instrument. Some dogs, of course, like some schoolboys, require a wholesome whipping to turn them from evil ways. But more do not; and the temperament of the dog must be taken into consideration before the lash is applied, for you want rather to inspire the transgressor with a sense of shame than to inflict physical hurt for its own sake.

The secret of all dog-training is to appeal

to the animal's mentality, and to realise that just as any dog will rejoice at the word of praise, so will the reverse apply, and he will feel disgraced according to the degree of his handler's displeasure. Therefore, as the whip is the ultimate symbol of the latter, the mere fact of its production in most cases will achieve the desired result.

Thrashing a dog into obedience plays no part in modern training, and at most a light cut or two across the loins will be sufficient as a rule to impress the transgressor with the fullest sense of his wrongdoing.

CORRESPONDENCE

DREDGING THE RIVER WISSEY

SIR,—Much experience has no doubt been gained during the last few years as to the result of agricultural drainage schemes in different parts of the country, and it would be of vital interest to me and others to have your advice and some of your readers' opinions on a dredging scheme now being carried out by the Great Ouse Catchment Board on the River Wissey at the instigation of the Norfolk War Agricultural Executive Committee.

The object of this scheme, I am informed, is to lower the water table some 2 or 3 ft. for the first 10 miles from the source, and thereafter increase the depth and width as they proceed downwards. The lowering of the water table, they allege, will benefit the meadows adjacent to the river and enable a large part of them to be re-seeded.

Many of us who have had upwards of 30 years' farming experience in this valley regard this scheme as in the nature of a dangerous and expensive experiment, in that lowering the water table under these light land meadows, some of the lightest and sandiest in Norfolk, will have the effect of drying out the meadows in summer, thereby depriving us of our summer keep, which in times of drought we have always been able to rely upon. This past summer has been one of the best examples.

Where part of the river has already been dredged there is now a small trickle of water running between high banks, quite 6 ft. high in places. Thousands of tons of gravel and flints have been deposited on the banks, the disposal of which is a problem in itself, as, if left where they are, they occupy valuable acres. Lower down, under the jurisdiction of the Great Ouse Catchment Board, the dredging is to be far more drastic, as their object is (in their own words) "to get rid of water" regardless of agricultural interests.

As owner of part of the land affected by this scheme, I and other owners and occupiers have made repeated representations to the Norfolk War Agricultural Executive Committee and to the Minister of Agriculture that all that was necessary to re-seed or improve the meadows was to cut the weeds in the river (which had not been done properly since the beginning of the war), remove any mud and obstructions, dig ditches and generally follow the ordinary principles of good husbandry as regards upkeep of meadows. My submission is that the remedy for neglected meadows is the opposite to neglect, and not the lowering of the water table, thereby endangering the irrigation, which is of such prime importance in this valley.

One fully realises that the urgency of producing food nowadays bears no relation to the cost, but surely it is better to produce food by economic means and at no risk to the future, if the same results can be achieved in the present. So convinced am I of the futility of this expensive and

unnecessary scheme that I intend to re-seed some of the worst meadows where the water table has not been affected, i.e. where a mill holds up the water level. This will at least explode the theory of the lowering of the water table of a river which rarely floods if kept clean, and then only for a very short space of time, the water quickly soaking away owing to the porous nature of the soil.

Another tragic aspect of the dredging is the permanent ruination of the fishing. The River Wissey is scheduled by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as a first-class



THE RIVER WISSEY DREDGED: A SHALLOW TRICKLE WITH ENORMOUSLY HIGH BANKS

See letter: Dredging the River Wissey

trout stream. In its natural state the river has many deep pools in which the big trout lie, and in between the pools are shallow stretches. The dredging has completely eliminated these pools, and the river, where dredged, is now a shallow trickle in the middle of a vastly widened river-bed with these enormously high banks on either side. Although I have had an expert to assess the damage to the stream as a trout stream, it is abundantly clear to anyone that no trout beyond the yearling stage could possibly live under such conditions. (Many big trout have already been found stranded and dead.)

So far only half of my stretch of the river has been dredged, the remaining half being in the area of the Great Ouse Catchment Board, who have frankly told me that they are concerned with neither agriculture nor fisheries so long as they "get rid of the water." I dread to think of the consequence to both agriculture and fisheries when left to the tender mercies of such administrations, apart from the appalling waste of public money involved.

Many of us feel convinced that the Ministry has been wrongly advised about this scheme, and, far from producing extra food, it is a positive menace to agriculture. I should be grateful for any advice you or your readers could give me to get this scheme stopped or modified before any more irreparable damage is done. —J. C. T. MILLS, Hilborough Hall, Thetford, Norfolk.

THE CROSS-HORNED BUCK

From the Duke of Bedford.

SIR,—I am inclined to think that the crossed brow tines of the fallow buck that forms the subject of Mr. Lionel Edwards's article (October 15) are likely to be a permanent feature in the deer's successive antlers and are not the result of an injury. Brow tines turning inwards to a lesser degree than those of this buck are quite a common feature of fallow deer heads, rarer abnormalities annually reproduced

home, mostly uphill, at walking pace, was a lesson in road manners, much to be commended for modern consideration. —C. TROUT, Guildford, Surrey.

A ZULU ON THE BOB (SEQUEL)

SIR,—Reading about Pomone in a COUNTRY LIFE issue, Some of my friends have asked me "Is any of it true?"

Wherefore to be honest And sweep all doubts away, I take again Macaulay's pen, And write a little lay.

I'm not a real Macaulay, I do not rhyme so well; I know little of the Romans, Nor how they used to spell.

I never verbed my Bibbo, But prefer the present tense; I doubt if that word "Bibbo" Has any sort of sense.

I never met Pomona, Though greedy for her fruit; For all I know Pomone Has quite a different root.

But Bibbo Pomone (I've heard no English name) Is an insect that's deserving Of the highest angling fame.

Yes, Bibbo Pomone Is a most important fly For it straddles on the ripples To catch the sea trout's eye,

Its legs are dark, its nails are sharp, It has an amber thigh; And that, or so it seems to me, Must be the reason why A Zulu on a Highland loch Is such a killing fly.

When August heat that warms the feet, Makes young Pomones hatch, They leave their grub-case on the ground, And quit their grassy patch.

They cruise upon their little wings, With dangling legs behind, And plane down from the hill-tops A Scottish loch to find.

They may, of course, get thirsty, But it's just as likely they Fall by mere luck, or want of pluck, On to a lee-shore bay.

Whenever on the surface These insects settle fast, And rising trouts raise silver snouts, Tie Zulu on the cast.

And what about that Angus? Was there indeed a man, Was there a place where some wild race

Grazed cattle of the clan?

Loch Arianas (Morvern)

Records it in its name.

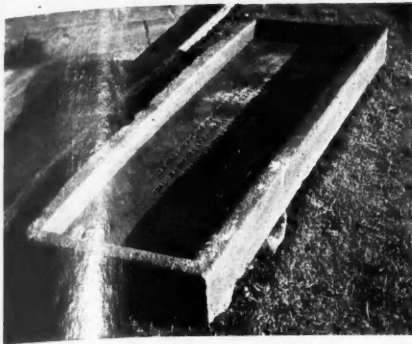
It means a cattle shieling

Where one named Angus came.

—ANTHONY BUCKLE, Horsey Hall, near Yarmouth, Norfolk.

BECCAFICO

SIR,—You will no doubt get many replies to your interesting query about beccafico. This is the Italian Beccafico, garden-warbler, and also fig-picker; *B. di padule* or *canetti*, reed-warbler; *B. canapino*, sedge-warbler;



TO BEAT BODY-SNATCHERS
See letter: A Resurrection Stone

B. di Prouven, Dartford warbler; *B. finocchio*, whin warbler; *Beccaforte*, crossbill; *Beccaforte*, snipe. *Beccaforte*, therefore, is Cyprus or on the Mediterranean coast would appear to be a term used generally to cover all the above species.—H. U., London, S.W.1.

A RESURRECTION STONE

SIR,—The old days of the body-snatchers are recalled by the "resurrection stone" which has been restored to Pannal, Yorkshire, churchyard. The stone, which weighs over a ton, used to be lifted out for two weeks at a fee of a guinea to prevent the stealing of newly-interred corpses and their sale to hospitals and medical students for purposes of dissection. Since 1832 the stone has had a varied history as a sink, well-cover and cattle trough.

It was returned to the church authorities and replaced by the Harrogate Group of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society.—J. A. CARPENTER, Harrogate.

AT MATCHING, ESSEX

SIR,—Matching Church, Essex, stands in a little oasis amid tracts of arable land at Matching Tye, some distance from the village.

Adjoining the church is the "Marriage Feast Room," so complete a curiosity that I believe that it must be unique in England.

However, its use is obvious. The writer, Harrison, in his *Description of England*, remarks: "In feasting the husbandmen doo exceed after their manner; especially at brides." Possibly this explains why the feast room is not actually situated on holy ground, but as near as possible to it.

Anyway, the group, cottage, church and venerable elm make a pleasing picture.

As a matter of interest, I would mention that the rather curious word *tye* is derived from the Old English word *teag*, meaning enclosure.

The cottage is now a private resi-

dence.—P. H. LOVELL, Pinner, Middlesex.

[It is appropriate that particular facilities should have been provided for persons matched and tied at Matching Tye.—ED.]

WALKING-STICKS FOR THE WOUNDED

SIR,—On first impressions there would appear to be nothing in the making of a walking-stick. Yet "natural" sticks of ash are only made in one small corner of the world—on the Sussex-Surrey border round Chiddingfold and Godalming—and here a band of craftsmen are now busily making thousands of sticks by hand for export to Australia for use by members of the Allied Forces wounded in the Pacific War.

Although sticks are cut from planks of timber and stained in many parts, only here are they grown and cultivated in special plantations,



MAKING THE CROOK

See letter: Walking-sticks for the Wounded

They have been made in this part of the country for close on 100 years now, and have been sent, not only to English firms all over the country, but also to many countries throughout the world.

The sticks are grown in a special way so that the handles grow below ground at right angles to the stem, for it is held that handles thus grown are the best. There is a great art in bringing about this freak growth, and smudge fires have to be lit in the plantations in early spring as a safeguard against frosts.

When the saplings are "drawn" from the ground, they are placed in beds of sand, which are heated above ovens, to make them soft and pliable. They are then straightened by drawing them through a special "horse."

The handle end is steamed in a copper, and is then curved into a crook by forcing it round a metal ring and tying it in position, leaving it to set for some hours in a bed of cold sand. The sticks are then trimmed and treated.

The result is a stick that you can depend on, and that is why those needed for both the wounded and the blind are being made in this small corner of the world. No other country, I am told, has yet mastered the



USING THE "HORSE"

See letter: Walking-sticks for the Wounded

secrets of this craft.—NORMAN WYMER, Appleacre, Ashacre Lane, Worthing.

SWALLOWS NEST ON A DOOR

SIR,—The enclosed photograph is of a swallows' nest.

For the second year in succession a pair of swallows have reared a family from this nest. The front door is of a bright scarlet colour and opens inwards. There hangs at the side of the door an imitation swallows' nest with mother and young in the nest—clearly seen on the right of the photograph. The real nest is built on a tiny ledge in the corner of the door and when the latter is opened it swings also into the hall of the bungalow.

When this photograph was taken in August, four young birds were in the nest. By September 6 all were fully grown and came back each evening after prolonged aerobatics to roost on top of the lamp. Much squabbling took place for the best perch, as the lampshade is only a small one and the four birds all squeezed on to it. They arrived before

dark and once settled in for the night, did not stir if anyone came in or out of the doorway.

The two parent birds occupied the empty nest at first, but if they do so at present they must come in late at night long after the youngsters have gone to bed on the lamp top.—M. McC., South Dalton, Yorkshire.

AT ASHBOURNE

SIR,—The old Free Grammar School at Ashbourne, Derbyshire, was founded in the reign of Good Queen Bess in 1585, and the charter granted by Queen Elizabeth is still preserved. It is said that Dr. Johnson applied for the post of usher at one time, but failed to get it.

A new school was built in 1909, and this old building is now used as a boarders' establishment and a house-master's residence.—A. B. LONG-BOTTOM, Alvaston, Derby.

TRAFFIC AFTER THE WAR

SIR,—Mr. Dodds's letter in COUNTRY LIFE, October 15, is opportune because it shows how little understood is the conception of motorways as they are visualised by their exponents in this country. He draws attention, very rightly, to the fact that traffic must reach them, though the method by which this would be brought about is quite different from that which he fears, i.e. utilisation of country lanes and village streets. An integral part of the motorway lay-out is the construction of special roads linking up with neighbouring towns and avoiding, where necessary, existing thoroughfares.



THE REAL SWALLOWS' NEST ABOVE THE IMITATION ONE

See letter: Swallows Nest on a Door

The motorway, moreover, is seen as a cure for the evil to which Mr. Dodds refers in his final paragraph. At present many lovely old towns are being badly spoilt because traffic is



THE UNIQUE MARRIAGE FEAST ROOM AT MATCHING TYE

See letter: At Matching, Essex



THE OLD FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL AT ASHBOURNE

See letter: At Ashbourne

either going directly through them along the old high roads or is bypassing them in close proximity. The motorway would carry its traffic at such distances from these towns that their peacefulness, instead of being endangered, would be very considerably enhanced.

The British Road Federation is holding an exhibition at 22, Lower Regent Street from December 9 to 24, to explain to the public what exactly is meant by motorways. Considerable emphasis is being placed on the importance of showing how, far from producing unsightly scars, the motorway should open up new vistas of country to the traveller and should preserve much that is already beautiful.—JAMES S. NEAVE, *Secretary, British Road Federation, 21, Southampton Place, London, W.C.1.*

THE ADAPTABILITY OF BIRDS

SIR,—In a tract of open agricultural country, bereft of hedge and bush, the

thrushes and blackbirds, several nests of the pied wagtail were discovered and the ragged structures of the ubiquitous sparrow bobbled up everywhere. A greenfinch must have been sorely tried in her searches for a nesting site, for we discovered one such nest under the eaves of a straw stack on the "roof" of which was also a nest full of eggs of the red-legged partridge.

In the side of one stack a lusty young cuckoo was literally clinging on for his life in the dangling nest of a hedge-sparrow, which had become dislodged from its original position and was hanging at a sharp angle from the side of the stack. We pulled a thatching stick from a stack and propped the nest to its original position, photographing the bird being fed and leaving the young alien more comfortable.

Robins and wrens appeared to discard the straw stacks in favour of the hayricks, in which several nests of both species were located, the nest of one robin containing a cuckoo's egg on the point of hatching. A yellow-hammer must also have thought twice before choosing a hayrick for her nest, but only proved to what extent a bird will go to rear her young.—G. J. SCHOLEY, 38, *Dysart Avenue, Kingston, Surrey.*

HAYRICK VARIATIONS

SIR,—The point raised in a Collector's Question about the hayrick depicted on a delft tile (October 22), brings to mind a drawing made of one that I came

across while on holiday a few years ago on the Isle of Bute.

Perhaps your readers may be able to enlighten me as to whether this particular rick construction is typical of that part of Scotland, or does it just happen to be the creative impulse of the local farmer finding expression in his work?—EDWARD S. BILLIN, 36, *Botanical Road, Sheffield.*

A BROKEN BRIDGE

SIR,—This remarkable panel in the church at Sharow, Yorkshire, shows a broken bridge over a rushing stream. It is a monument in memory of George Knowles, the civil engineer



A HAYRICK IN BUTE

See letter: Hayrick Variations

who designed the church. The great panelled roof, a flat expanse over 40 ft. wide, is a striking feature of the building.—J. R., *Darlington.*

ORIENTAL CARPETS

SIR,—I am sorry that I described the rug illustrated on page 645, *COUNTRY LIFE* of October 8, as a "So-called Damascus rug" instead of as "An Asia Minor rug of so-called Holbein type."—M. JOURDAIN, *London, S.W.7.*

MEMORIES OF GUY FAWKES

SIR,—Guy Fawkes Day and the appointment of a Select Committee to deal with the subject of rebuilding the House of Commons having almost synchronised, this engraving in an ancient copy of the *Illustrated London News* may have special interest. This is the matter which accompanied it:

"Few who visit the stately new Houses of Parliament notice the care which has been taken to incorporate such fragments as were available into the modern building. The ancient and stately Hall has, as we think, been much improved by the flight of steps and the beautiful stained-glass window at the sound end. The old Chapel, with its decorated roof of 15th-century architecture, has been carefully restored; other portions of the structure partially destroyed by the last fire have also been preserved; it was, however, found impossible to save the arched chambers which had for so long a period been associated with the far-famed conspirator.

"Guy Fawkes's Cellar was situated in what is now an open space between the exterior of the south end of Westminster Hall and the Victoria Tower; and, on levelling the foundation, the crowns of the arches were found, as was the case with the crypt of Gerard's Hall, to be above the level of the pavement; and it was, in consequence, found necessary to remove it. Since the time of the Gunpowder Plot it has been customary, a few days before the opening of each Parliament, to make an examination (under the superintendence of Black Rod) of the various undercrofts below the Houses of Lords and Commons, in order to search for Guys and gunpowder.

"The particulars in connection with the London residence, etc., of Guy Fawkes seem not to be very clearly known. A house, said to have been his, formerly stood in Lambeth, not far from Vauxhall. It was, a few years ago, demolished.

"In the illustrated *Pennant*, in the Print Room, British Museum,

there is a curious portrait of Guy, in broad-flapped hat. The countenance is so hirsute that it would not make a bad model for some of the masks made for use on November 5. As a departed relic of a well-remembered event, we have thought it worth while to give an engraving of the Cellar, from a sketch made at the time of its removal."—A. G. WADE (Major), *Bentley, Hampshire.*

SIR,—Here is a photograph showing one of the reputed birthplaces of Guy Fawkes. At least three places in or near York city claim the distinction; there are Bishopthorpe, three miles from York, and Stonegate and Petergate, both within a stone's-throw of St. Michael-le-Belfry Church, where, incidentally, Guye Fawkes, son of Edward Fawke, was christened on "ye xvi day of April" (1570).

My photograph shows the Petergate house, whose east front contains three niches, two of them occupied by cherubic figures, and a third by a

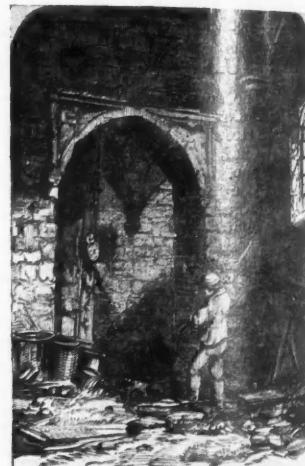


HEDGE-SPARROW WITH CUCKOO IN A NEST IN A RICK

See letter: The Adaptability of Birds

discovery of a redstart's nest cleverly concealed in the side of a straw stack not only proved the adaptability of birds in changing surroundings, but also revealed their strong adherence to a strict law of territory.

A visit to all the hayricks and straw stacks throughout this particular locality showed that some 11 different species of birds were utilising these makeshift conveniences for their nests, some fifty of which were located during the day, some of the stacks actually sheltering the homes of two and three different species at the same time. Almost every stack was in the occupation of



THE OLD GUY FAWKES CELLAR AT WESTMINSTER

See letter: Memories of Guy Fawkes

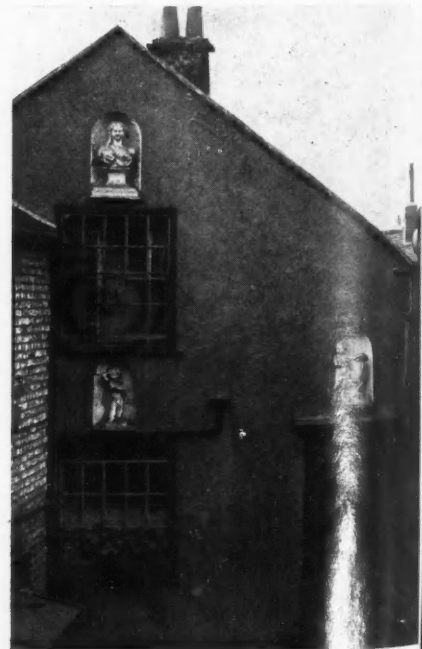
female bust whose identity it would be interesting to learn.

In order to see this house you have to go through Young's Hotel, whose back door opens on to this unexpected yard—where the infant Guy might have played.—G. B. W., *Leeds.*



A MONUMENT TO AN ENGINEER

See letter: A Broken Bridge



A REPUTED BIRTHPLACE OF GUY FAWKES

See letter: Memories of Guy Fawkes

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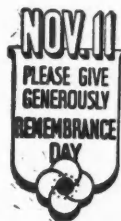
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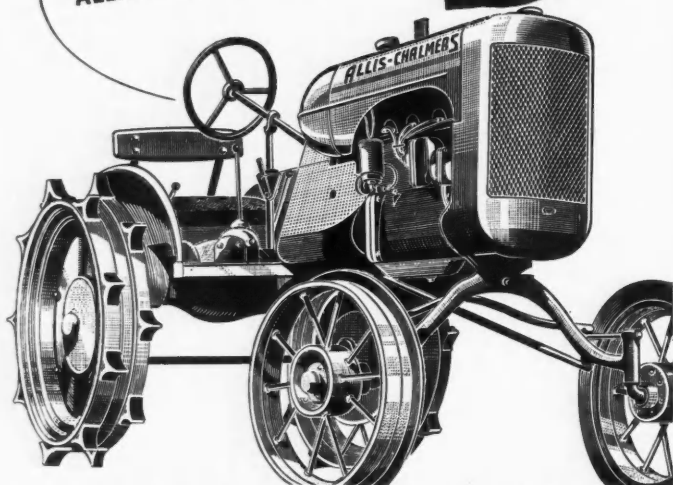
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FARMING NOTES

U.S. FARMERS' PRAISE

TWICE during their brief stay I met the three American farm leaders who crossed the Atlantic to see something of our war-time agricultural programme and learn what they could for application in their own country. It is nice sometimes to hear praise, especially when all is not going too smoothly and some feel that British agriculture has almost overreached itself in the effort to attain maximum production. The three Americans, representing the National Farmers' Union of the U.S., the National Grange and the U.S. Farm Bureau Federation, had a look at Devon, Dorset, Kent, Sussex and Warwick, as well as visiting Cambridge and the Royal Farm at Windsor and Sir George Stapledon's Experimental Grass-land Station at Dodwell. They did not penetrate into the areas where this season's harvest has proved most difficult. No doubt they saw something of the aftermath in Devon. But they did see enough to convince them of our effective organisation in this country to secure full farm production. What impressed them particularly was the unity of purpose and understanding between Whitehall and the local committee members responsible for their particular parishes. In the States there is plenty of divergence of opinion on farming matters.

THE Americans were also impressed by the mechanical efficiency of our farming. This was a surprise to me, because I had always imagined that American farmers were much more machine-minded than we are. The visitors thought that we make good use of the machinery which America has sent us under the Lease-Lend Agreement, and they have gone back to tell their fellow-farmers that we need this machinery even if it means that they have to go short in America. So long as economy in shipping matters, it clearly saves space to send tractors and implements here rather than ship wheat. The same is true of phosphates. American farmers are feeling the shortage of phosphates, but it has been sound economy for the United Nations as a whole to ship phosphates here and get the fullest tonnage of cereals grown close to the point of consumption.

PRESSED to say what features of our agriculture had not struck them favourably, the Americans said that they were disappointed in our livestock. Too many of our herds are cross-bred and mongrel, and they were surprised to find that we had made so little progress in eradicating tuberculosis and contagious abortion. In the United States large areas are practically clear of these scourges. It has been national policy to clean up the herds, and reacting cows have been taken for slaughter with compensation to the owners. Their conditions and their climate do not make their cattle so prone to disease as ours here. This makes our problems of disease eradication all the more urgent.

BEFORE the American party left these shores, a party of British agricultural representatives returned from the United States and Canada. I was particularly interested to hear what Mr. T. B. Manson of the Department of Agriculture for Scotland had to say about his impressions as he moved through the Dominion from New Brunswick to Vancouver, meeting farmers and agricultural scientists at all hours of the day and most of the night. Their guiding principle in farming now is "What Britain wants

Britain must have." A few weeks ago I referred in these Notes to Canada's achievements in expanding the output of dairy produce, eggs and bacon to meet our needs. Mr. Manson told how, when he reached one small township in the Prairies, he found a banner strung across the street with the slogan, "The Milky Way to Britain." This was part of the campaign to get local farmers to produce more milk to be shipped in dry or condensed form.

CANADA has set herself an ambitious target for bacon shipments. Mr. Manson stated that 675,000,000 lb. of bacon will come here from Canada this year. But the Canadians are not very proud of the bacon. They have had to increase production rapidly and feed their hogs to heavy weights in order to fulfil their undertaking. They hope that British consumers will not judge Canada's bacon by the quality of all that comes here now. I am not sure myself that housewives would not prefer to have rather less bacon if they could get it leaner. Certainly Canada is on a sound wicket in developing her pig production. We ought to be doing more of this here. The whole world is short of meat now and will be shorter still next year and the year after. The Continent of Europe used to rely largely on pig meat. The slaughterings have been very heavy under the Nazi régime. Our pigs are also cut down severely in numbers. We ought to keep more gilts for breeding, particularly pedigree gilts. For the most part they could live on chat potatoes and other farm by-products that would otherwise be wasted. There is a special ration for farrowing sows allowing them 3 cwt. of meal. This is not limited to farmers who kept pigs before the war. Where conditions are suitable for pig-keeping, War Agricultural Committees can use their discretion in allowing these special rations even if the farmer has not previously kept pigs. There are also special allowances for pedigree pigs. The demand for store pigs at 8-10 weeks old is good, and they are likely to be worth producing for some time to come. Those who have facilities for keeping two or three sows should certainly think about it.

TWO of my neighbours are trying to get T.T. licences for their herds. They have had preliminary tests made by the local veterinary surgeon. In one herd five out of 25 cows reacted to the test, and in the other herd of 15 the preliminary test only showed two reactors. This is a good start. The statement is often quoted that 40 per cent. of our cattle would react to the tuberculin test. I have always felt that this was an exaggeration, and I hope that others will find themselves as well placed as my two neighbours to clear their herds of reactors and get the T.T. licence. The attraction of course is the guarantee of 4d. a gallon for milk from T.T. herds which the Government has now given. Freedom from tuberculosis is not the only qualification for a T.T. licence. The buildings have to be reasonably good for hygienic production and a sterilising outfit for the utensils is a condition that some local authorities insist upon. The important point is the quality of the milk. Hard-and-fast regulations about air-space in the cowshed and the composition of the floor are not really important. Some local authorities still make a fuss if farmers use straw as bedding for cows. This is surely wrong to-day when there is an abundance of straw everywhere and we need all the farm-yard manure that can be made.

CINCINNATUS.

THE ESTATE MARKET

TOWN AND COUNTRY PRICES

IN contrast to certain other markets, that for real investments shows an encouraging revival in recent weeks, especially in the suburban districts of London and urban areas generally. With one exception all the recorded transactions are in small lots. Apparently the buying is less on behalf of occupiers than persons who want a safe and promising opening for placing a few hundreds of pounds. Such buyers are small about the ever-present and often perplexing problems that await the solution, but most of the buyers probably feel that they can rely on the readiness of tenants to go on paying the rents promptly and punctually for dispossession, whether of a house or a shop, at the present time, is something the occupiers do not care to contemplate.

CONTROLLED TRANSACTIONS

THE two largest transactions in recent weeks are one, in London, of a site near the University of London, for £72,500, and the other, in Lincolnshire, of a large farm. The London sale is so far only provisional, for the Charity Commission controls the matter and has issued the usual invitation to the public to notify it of any objection, suggestion or higher offer. Very seldom do such notices result in any interference with a contemplated transaction, but in many instances they keep the prospective purchasers on tenterhooks for weeks. No doubt the best course for would-be buyers, either by private contract notifiable in the aforesaid manner, calling all and sundry to upset the business, or would-be buyers by tender, is to deliver their proposal and forget it until such time, if at all, as the vendors decide to send them the welcome note that they are authorised to complete the sale. Under various Acts of Parliament the Charity Commissioners, the Board of Education and other authorities supervise certain classes of leases and sales in the interests of the beneficiaries or users of the property. It is only when some such sales are proposed that buyers have it brought before them in a troublesome manner that essential steps in regard to the title to the property may have been omitted at some remote period in the past, and costs are apt to mount up in remedying the defect. But on the whole the buyer by tender is less fortunately placed, inasmuch as he may go on wondering by how much his successful offer exceeded the exact sum at which he might have got the property.

FIVE-FIGURE FARMS

THE southern counties and the North Midlands provide news of several sales of farms at high prices. One, a freehold of about 200 acres at Ringmer, Sussex, with possession, has changed hands for £10,500, and nearly £100 an acre has been paid for land in the Cuckfield district. A total of just over a square mile at Semington, near Trowbridge, Wiltshire, has been dealt with under the hammer in various extensive lots, for an aggregate amount of £27,715; and, at Uttoxeter, a Leigh (Staffordshire) freehold with possession, pleasantly named Dairy House Farm (204 acres), fetched £2,600.

A £25,000 FARM

LINCOLNSHIRE land is fetching excellent prices, and this on its merits agriculturally and not, as some ill-informed people suggest, through the actions of speculators for re-sale. In the last few days a holding of 425 acres, called Ash House Farm, on Metherringham Farm, 15 miles from

Lincoln, has been sold for £25,000. Messrs. William H. Brown and Son held the auction at Sleaford, for Mr. H. Bembridge, who has farmed at Ash House for over a quarter of a century. Bidding began at £20,000, and the final and accepted offer was by Mr. Ernest W. Bowser, of Tytton Hall, near Boston. Potatoes have been the principal crop, and within the last two years the farm land has been under-drained, deeply ploughed and subsoiled. Beet, cereals and other crops do well on the land, which may be classed as market-garden ground.

MAINTENANCE OF FARMING LAND

A RECENT visit to one or two well-known tracts of country that have hitherto, in the main, been notable for what may be called their inherent fertility raised doubts as to how far the present conditions of cultivation may affect the future rental and market value of certain areas. Notwithstanding the efforts of local controllers and advisers to bring about a variety of changes in a manner acceptable to all parties, and the facilities afforded to farmers for obtaining machinery and fertilisers, misgivings are felt by some practical farmers as to the result of some of the changes. Land which was for ages unsurpassed as grazing land is said to be showing signs of deterioration since its conversion to arable. It is not a deterioration due to any fault of the farmer's methods, but to the insufficiency of certain mineral constituents of the soil. This insufficiency as it happens with regard to arable may have marked a district in past times, but it never manifested itself so long as the land was used for feeding pasture.

THE MINERAL CONTENT OF SOIL

ONE such example of a lack of an essential constituent of the soil is seen in parts of Romney Marsh, Kent, and neighbouring low-level land, and another on the alluvial land of parts of the Fens in Cambridgeshire and in parts of Lincolnshire. Dr. T. Wallace, of the Long Ashton Research Station, in his new *Diagnosis of Mineral Deficiencies in Plants*, gives a description of the symptoms of an insufficiency of various substances, and indicates how anyone may see a perhaps hitherto unsuspected agency destroying or reducing crops. Mr. N. H. Pizer, the advisory chemist of the South-eastern Agricultural College, Wye, discussing the matter in the October number of the *Journal of the Chartered Land Agents' Society*, refers in some detail to the bad effects of a deficiency of manganese in a soil. It seems that putting too much lime on land is a contributory cause of the lack of manganese.

To landowners, large or small, the investigations are of great importance, for if permanent injury is caused to land that is temporarily ploughed, but normally pasture, the eventual reaction on the letting or selling value of the property may be considerable. Take Romney Marsh grazings for example, fed to sheep. The land cost next to nothing, apart from drainage, to keep it in first-rate condition for its most remunerative use. If in time a re-conversion from arable to grass takes place, there may conceivably be new causes of outlay in the recovery of full old-time fertility, causes costly enough to make buyers or tenants unwilling to pay the former rents or prices. The question is worth careful consideration, for neglected cases of mineral deficiency may even depreciate the value of a property and are sure to lead to a loss of produce. ARBITER.



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Submit tyres in time for remoulding—neglected cuts ruin casings.



"You're right there," said the man in the bowler hat. "We've all got to do all we can towards winning the war," went on "Mr. Tannoy." "For instance, we sound equipment people, besides helping at open air meetings, like this, are busy in the factories relaying messages to the workers, and musical entertainment programmes to help step up production. And then we're on board ships, too, and in many other places."

"That's the spirit," said the man in the bowler hat.

"Until, when peacetime comes again, we'll be back at gymkhanas and sports meetings and circuses. I expect I shall be seeing you at some of them."

The man in the bowler hat took out his wallet. "The more we save the sooner that time will come," he said, "excuse me, I have some other business to attend to."

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NEW BOOKS

DICTATOR OF PORTUGAL

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

IT is of the normal essence of dictatorship that the dictator should be written about, photographed, cracked up, boosted, made the focus of great military displays, wear medals, uniforms and jack boots, inspect armies, hug babies, and live in a fervour of limelight and laudation.

Dr. Salazar, the Portuguese dictator, does and suffers none of these things. Before he became a dictator he was a professor of economics, and the photograph of him which prefaces Mr. F. C. G. Egerton's *Salazar, Re-builder of Portugal* (Hodder and Stoughton, 15s.) is of an academic and ascetic person who might equally be a mathematician or a cardinal. You have only to look at this face to see that here is a man who would shun advertisement like the devil, dislike popular adulation, and despise play-acting. And so it is with Salazar. He lives the life of a recluse; he never speaks in public unless he has some pronouncement to make; and when he does speak, his speeches read like papal encyclicals. They are full of philosophical and moral matter.

THE SPIRITUAL SIDE

"Of all living statesmen," writes Mr. Egerton, "none has realised the causes of the world's sickness with the acuteness of Salazar. It is customary to ascribe the trouble to two main factors—fear, and economic insecurity, but Salazar looks even beyond these. He sees that, underneath the struggle which is being waged at this moment between two conceptions of life, both sides agree in ignoring the vital spiritual element."

Certainly, it is not customary to find the head of a modern State speaking to his people in such words as these: "These are the bases of our social revolution—not to aspire to power as to a right, but to accept it as a duty; to regard the State as God's minister for the good of the community, and to obey whole-heartedly whoever is invested with authority; not to forget, if one is in a position of authority, in the name of Whose justice one issues commands. . . . Thus authority is free, and the subject respected. Thus human law is ennobled by justice, power held in check by the law of God and bounded by the rights of conscience. Thus order is assured by the obedience of souls."

Note the words authority and obedience. Salazar gets pretty near to claiming the old sanctions of Divine Right. "God instituted authority and entrusted it to those who hold it."

Salazar is not a democrat. "To believe," he has declared, "as men often do, that public liberty is inseparably linked with democracy and parliamentarism is to fail to take into

account the clearest facts of political and social life in all ages." Not that he is unaware that in other countries there may be, successfully, other manners. "It is beyond question," he says, "that it has been possible to grant the English people—because they are fully aware of their responsibilities and of the common welfare—liberties which other nations have been obliged to restrict or to condition more narrowly."

In considering the austerity—if you like, the severity—of Salazar's régime, one must bear in mind the condition of the country when he came to power. "In the 26 years since the establishment of the Republic," writes Mr. Egerton, "it had known eight Presidents. . . . The most promising had been assassinated. It had had 44 ministries. There had been 24 minor revolts and uprisings, 158 general strikes, and numerous assassinations and bomb outrages."

Salazar governs without a Parliament and with a strict Press censorship. Mr. Egerton, a whole-hearted admirer of Salazar, appears to think that our own Press would be improved by censorship and quotes some examples of "dangerous rubbish" that would have been better unpublished. The difficulty is that a censorship which begins with the suppression of "dangerous rubbish" does not always end there. Since it is in the nature of authority to seek to perpetuate itself, since authority indeed must do this if it conceive itself to be God-ordained, then its arm will be turned against anything, rubbish or not, that is aimed against its own continuance. There is not necessarily—or even usually—a Salazar to make decisions.

PORTUGAL'S FUTURE

Here, indeed, is the essential weakness of the whole situation, as Mr. Egerton himself sees. "What will happen in Portugal," he asks, "when Salazar is not there?" and he goes on: "One answer to this question—it is not really an answer but it may reasonably take the place of one—is that Salazar is there." I do not see how what is not an answer can "reasonably take the place of one," and the question remains unanswered. Unsatisfactory as one would consider the Portuguese system if applied to our own country, no one who has

considered Salazar's work can doubt that he has done his country much good. He is still in his prime—54—and much will depend on whether, before his task is laid down, his influence has been strong enough upon his fellow-countrymen to make possible a relaxation of the severities he has had to lay on them. That is the question that hangs over Portugal's future. Should Salazar be succeeded by another dictator, there

**SALAZAR,
RE-BUILDER OF
PORTUGAL**
By F. C. G. Egerton
(Hodder & Stoughton, 15s.)

THE TIME BETWEEN
By Gale Wilhelm
(Chapman and Hall, 7s. 6d.)

CITY OF THE SOUL
By Michael Home
(Methuen, 8s. 6d.)

DANCE OF THE YEARS
By Margery Allingham
(Michael Joseph, 10s. 6d.)

is no guarantee that he would be succeeded by his own finest qualities.

The publishers of *The Time Between*, by Gale Wilhelm (Chapman and Hall, 7s. 6d.) say on the jacket that the story is "deeply moving, but is not tragic." It is a pity that we are afraid of words. It is a pity that the idea should get about that readers shy away from reality, that they ask only to be titillated, and that, if a writer gets deeper than that—well, his work, let us say, is moving, but not tragic. Never let us admit that this superb word *tragedy*, one of the great stirring words of all time, has any application to the mid-20th-century life of to-day.

OUR TRAGIC EPOCH

Things are all wrong. We live in the most tragic epoch of man's history, and any book which is rightly and fully to portray our times must recognise this and make it the core and centre of the whole matter. Our times are more than "deeply moving." They are darkened in every thread of their fabric by mankind's inability to slough off its material greedy husk and live as a spiritual being. If that is not a tragedy, what is?

I beg leave then to introduce *The Time Between* not as a deeply moving book but as a tragic book in the authentic meaning of the word. It is a short novel dealing with what happened during an American flying-officer's leave. He has been badly wounded and patched up. Now he is back in the Californian township where he was born and his wealthy parents live. His great friend, also an airman, has been killed, and the sight of this returning young man is too much for the over-strained nerves of his friend's wife. She commits suicide. For the rest, the young man marries, he and his wife have as good a time as the circumstances permit, he is at last passed as fit for service again, and he goes back to the war.

That is all; but in the few weeks here recorded Mr. Wilhelm concentrates all the anguish of longing for love and the sanities of living that now darkens millions of hearts all over the world. I suppose there are some who would call this Dick Hainesford a fortunate young man. All the material things that life can bring were poured into his lap; nevertheless he is Everyman of Service age; his wife is every wife; his reserved but heart-stricken parents are all those who must fill as best they may the dire vacuum of this "time between." Mr. Wilhelm is an author who can see and feel. He communicates the essential tragedy of our days.

ON SECRET SERVICE

The other novels I have recently read are not so good. Mr. Michael Home in *City of the Soul* (Methuen, 8s. 6d.) brings to an end his trilogy dealing with secret service in Libya and with the soul-travail of Mr. Brice. Brice married during the last war a charming girl. Returning to his unit in Cairo, he at once fell violently in love with a "no account" woman, and could never face his wife again. He lives in the desert, becomes almost an Arab, and his knowledge of those parts, their people and their languages makes him an invaluable Intelligence agent when his war breaks out.

The third novels which end with *City of the Soul*, a completely readable yarn in itself, deal with his exploits, but they also portray his feeling that his life is an expiation for his sins and that he is being mysteriously moved by a Purpose towards some consummation. This is at the end of this

book) a meeting with his wife, and, though nothing explicitly is said, we are left with a feeling that a "happy ever after" condition has been reached.

I don't accept this as a likely situation. That the boy and girl who parted 25 years before, who had seen nothing of one another in the meantime, should come together again in mutual understanding seems to me to fly sentimentally in the face of all likelihood. But, as a Secret Service yarn, *City of the Soul* has its points.

OVERCROWDED

I was disappointed with Miss Margery Allingham's *Dance of the Years* (Michael Joseph, 10s. 6d.) which read to me more like a sketch for six novels than one shaped work. It is concerned with the career of James Galantry, son of an English squire and a gypsy girl. It seeks to trace throughout the years the dominance of the gypsy blood. The trouble is that this theme, which could have been a satisfactory backbone for the book, is overlaid by too many characters and too many inconclusive incidents that have nothing to do with it. There is a sense all through the book that the author did a lot of "reading up" and was determined to leave nothing out. For example: "This particular autumn was a time of high lights. *Dombey and Son* was coming out in parts; Tennyson was roaring his sonorous sweetness to enraptured thousands; and Jenny Lind was taking the Town." No doubt, but what these things have to do with the book I cannot see.

"Hurry, say the years. Hurry, hurry, hurry," begins one chapter. The years have hustled Miss Allingham much too briskly. They have given her book the fidgets.

CHARLOTTE YONGE'S life is not one about which it would be possible to write a smart psychological study; viewed in such terms she becomes a pathological case and the world of her novels a society as remote as that of the Trobriand Islanders. It is indeed possible to read and enjoy *The Pillars of the House* or *The Daisy Chain* at this level, merely to amuse oneself over the extraordinary taboos and rituals of Victorian upper-middle-class society. But this is to miss all that is most permanently endearing in Miss Yonge's books: her love and understanding of children, her brilliant observation of telling detail, her mastery of dialogue and above all the power, which the author of this biography—Charlotte M. Yonge, by Georgina Battiscombe (Constable, 15s.)—has so understandingly analysed, of making goodness attractive, of reconciling romance and high principles. Mrs. Battiscombe has not tried to conceal that Miss Yonge's religion was the preoccupation of her life and that her books were written "Pro Ecclesia Dei" and not "for Art's sake"; and such an unfashionable admission by a biographer is particularly refreshing. Mrs. Battiscombe has recaptured something of Miss Yonge's own style, at once cosy and sprightly, in describing her life and works, and it is not only Miss Yonge's devotees who will enjoy the details of this quiet nineteenth-century life—the drives in the blue and yellow chariot which made little Charlotte so sick, paper-games at the Kebles's, the supreme excitement of meeting a missionary bishop, the super-refined friend who could not stand yellow flowers or the smell of a snuffed candle. These pleasant details have been set in perspective against the background of contemporary events and opinion, illustrated by well-chosen quotations, and the result is a very complete and entertaining biography.

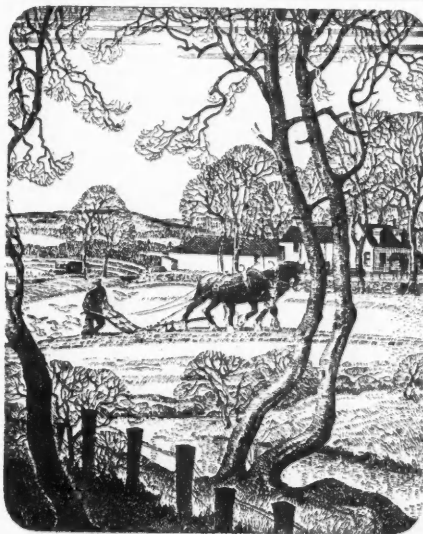
A. C. H.



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JERSEY

in the news

(Right) Black wool jersey with a belt of gold and silver and a Juliet cap of tulle, jersey and beads. Strassner

(Below) Evening blouse of black Chantilly lace with full sleeves and a round yoke tying with black velvet. Worn with a long black velvet skirt. Strassner



PHOTOGRAPHS DENES

THE straight up and down frocks in black, in the Mayfair dress shows, stand out in the memory. The dresses, slim as willow wands, are the essence of simplicity and the sort of thing on which it is practically impossible to go wrong as they can be adapted to almost any type of figure. They are the counterpart of the Chanel chemise dresses of the last war but infinitely more attractive with their normal waistlines, elegant, slightly squared shoulders, slim skirts and seven-eighths or three-quarter sleeves. With them, according to your type, go an upward-swept *coiffure*, a tightly-helmeted head, a glamorous evening snood or hat, or a flat "little-girl" head of hair with parting, tied with bright bows each side or held by a slide. Almost always, a strong accessory makes a focal point on the dress: a great glittering jet bow; a collar necklace of carved, semi-precious stones; Victorian pinchbeck or seed pearls; a sunburst of paste pinned into the drapery of a bodice; a belt of strass beads; a scarlet, turquoise or violet satin satchel slung over the shoulder.

In the Hartnell collection there are several pretty, short black dinner frocks, with long, tight or plain seven-eighths sleeves and a glitter of gold or silver braid or beads somewhere or other. One, in black velvet has epaulette yokes of gold and silver braid and the sash belt of velvet slotted through two hearts of gold and silver braid set on the normal waistline in front. A black cloth dress, as slim as a pencil, has narrow gold braid threaded through the black suede buttons that run right down the front. These buttons are round and flat like the old-fashioned white linen ones. The gold thread also decorates the round, collarless neckline and is threaded through the narrow black suede belt. A short black satin dress has godet fullness on the left hip, a V neckline and a gathered bodice. The same line is shown for ankle-length velvets and satins which are worn with dashing velvet hats cascading down the back with cherry bows or tulle veils.

Woollen jersey suits are another popular feature of the winter collections. Indeed, woollen jersey everywhere is an outstanding material for frocks, suits, tailored shirts and odd jackets. The manufacturers are producing jerseys every bit as fine as any woven on the Continent before the war, and introducing new weaves—a most encouraging sign. The suits are the lineal descendants of the cardigan suit but have jackets with revers, collars and pockets just like a tweed. The jersey is usually plain in colour; very few are checked. Miss Lucy is showing a series of these useful suits. She does not line the jackets so they can be bought for 14 coupons instead of the usual 18. She has an attractive *bouclé* jersey as a chestnut brown suit, cut with a longish jacket and a collar that buttons up and transforms the jacket into a jumper that can be worn without a blouse. Another suit is in plain jersey with double stitching and seaming on the jacket. To go with these suits, Miss Lucy shows a jersey berea which she calls Alamein, very smart and easy to wear, cockaded with ribbon. Blouses are tailored in rayon and woollen crêpes. The crêpes take four coupons, the wool six, and copper beech is her new autumnal colour, excellent with the brown suits and brown fur coats. A long-sleeved woollen blouse tucks in at the back, and the front ties over so that it looks like the top of a dress. This has long, plain sleeves and a plain neckline and a hat to go with it, a most becoming beanie that pulls forward and has pale blue wings jutting out each side. It makes a charming wedding outfit worn with a plain brown suit, a pale blue blouse and furs. The jersey suit is so plain that it is right for morning with a cashmere

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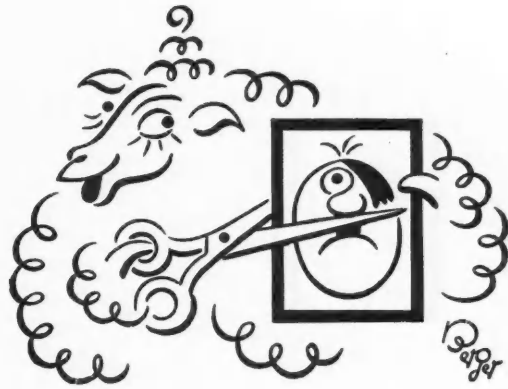


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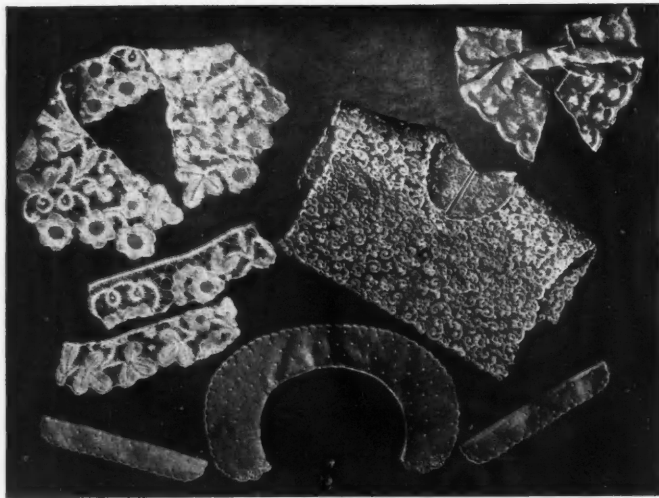
Wolsey



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sweater or plain blouse and plain beret or handkerchief tied on peasant-wise.

WOLSEY designs a charming group of jersey frocks. Honey-comb weaves in a mixture of angora and wool, warm and taut as a woollen suiting, heavenly to wear, make tailored frocks with scooped-out necklines and white pique dickeys that can be removed easily for laundering. The general effect is of a coat-frock and blouse and it is especially attractive in mushroom browns and fawns. A double-breasted jersey frock with pleats set in a panel in front is designed for the not so slim. Collarless frocks with pouched backs and rounded yokes give a very softened youthful



The White House shows collars, cuffs, yokes and bows in real lace, each one unique. Also Peter Pan collars and cuffs in hand-embroidered pique, white or pink

outline. Button-through frocks with turndown collars are made to fit the stiffened cotton collars that can be bought without coupons. Some frocks have long sleeves, some short—the long ones with wrist-bands that button neatly over. It is the small details such as this that give such a smart finish to these simple frocks. Buttons and a packet fastening under the arm are others. Wolsey have given a great deal of time and thought to these matters, and the collection looks very crisp and fresh in consequence. Colours are named for the Commonwealth—Rhodesian rose, Colombo brown, Auckland green, Melbourne blue are four outstanding ones and will be seen in the shops soon.

A new crop of house-coats and dressing-gowns have appeared in the London shops. In their newly-opened pink and white *salon* in Sloane Street, Walpoles show house-coats in thick cotton velours in flowered all-over chintz patterns. Peter Robinsons have camel dressing-gowns and black woollen ones with scarlet fronts. Jaeger's wool dressing-gowns in Paisley patterns are light and warm in lovely colour

mixtures—mauve with blues or yellows with reds. Peter Robinsons have slippers in rainbow strips of coloured felt. Other shopping items in London: Russell and Bromley report a large stock of the new "Birthday" shoe for children, especially the laced brown one which they have in all sizes. L. Thiercraft tuck the back of their pigskin gloves in the shape of a V and make handle-bags to match. Debenham and Freebody have divided skirts for cycling in strong nigger or navy barathea with a big pocket on the right hip. They also have pigskin and leather waistcoats that slip on over woollen sweaters or shirts and act as wind-breakers for country women. Leather mitts with sheepskin backs are other useful items for the country; so are the quilted silk petticoats at Marshall and Snelgrove's which take four coupons, are light and not in any way bulky. They are made in black, brown, navy and fawn marocain. There are outsize mohair scarves, light and warm that take two coupons, and can be used as rugs or shoulder capes.

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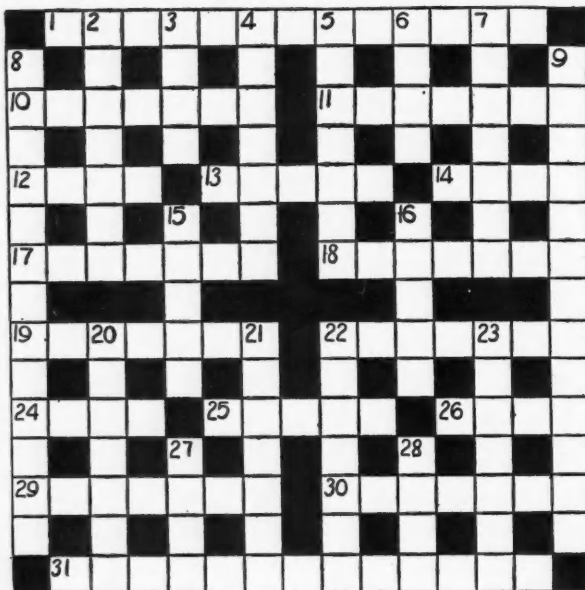
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CROSSWORD No. 719

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 719, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on Thursday, November 11, 1943.

NOTE.—This competition does not apply to the United States.



Name.....
(Mr., Mrs., etc.)
Address.....

SOLUTION TO No. 718. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of October 29, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Black-out; 5, Gnomon; 9, Nearness; 10, Feeler; 11, Overlies; 13, Alaska; 14, Nip; 16, Aspire; 19, Ladders; 20, Old toy; 21, Own; 26, Spurge; 27, Next year; 28, Sits up; 29, Stray dog; 30, Seraph; 31, Fresh pot. DOWN.—1, Bonbon; 2, Abated; 3, Kindle; 4, Unseen; 6, Needleless; 7, Moleskin; 8, Narrated; 12, Sit down; 15, Day; 16, Ark; 17, Consists; 18, Adductor; 19, Long jump; 22, Neater; 23, Straws; 24, Lead up; 25, Bright.

ACROSS.

1. Then the lad had been shepherding the moonlit sheep for three-quarters of an hour (three words, 7, 2, 4)
10. Bruce watched the spider do it (two words, 5, 2)
11. Shrubs on which a redbreast might well alight (7)
12. Exiled poet (4)
13. Do it to 15 to produce the edible article (5)
14. Hyde Park lady in charge of the birds (4)
17. This one would be a marauder in the above sanctuary (7)
18. Cleaned off or what has been done by the parasitic when cleaned out (7)
19. Pluto's there, and it's all far away (7)
22. Found in Ceylon (7)
24. Kate's chopped-up wood (4)
25. Plunge the leek tops wrong way round in a Scottish pail (5)
26. By word of mouth (4)
29. "The great grey-green, greasy — River, all set about with fever trees."—Kipling (7)
30. The stout old — comes; behind him march the halberdiers.—Macaulay (7)
31. Kind of relative feeling experienced by the tall clock in the corner? (13)

DOWN.

2. The three canons of classical drama (7)
3. A precious stone (4)
4. "Leap, men!" (anagr.) (7)
5. Sailor-boy and sailor-boys? No, they're Asiatics! (7)
6. Catches (4)
7. Little Nancy meets the King of China (7)
8. Beside which a deformed walker found a damaged sixpence (three words, 1, 7, 5)
9. Kind of existence led by Felix and Fido? (four words, 3, 3, 3, 4)
15. An artist in bed will eat it just like the rest of us (5)
16. They all have their day in April (5)
20. Stutter (7)
21. Mockery, perhaps, but do it to a hat and it's courtesy (two words, 4, 3)
22. Beacon lamp (7)
23. Appropriate for war (7)
27. Say most of it to a goose if you can, it's wholly a blessing (4)
28. Only a lake (4)

The winner of Crossword No. 717 is

Mr. John B. Cardwell,

Clayton Green, Chorley, Lancashire

"YOUR DAUGHTERS"

"We do not want them, in the unavoidable monotony and hardness of their duties, to forget the happiness, comforts and duties of home. . . ."

Mrs. CHURCHILL VOICES ALL PARENTS' HOPES

MOTHERS, Fathers and all with young relations on War Service will echo in their hearts the words of Mrs. Churchill quoted above.

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£250,000 is urgently needed for this year's commitments. Donations should be sent to Mrs. Churchill, President, Y.W.C.A. War Time Fund, 10 Downing Street, London, S.W.1 (marking envelopes Y.W.C.A.).

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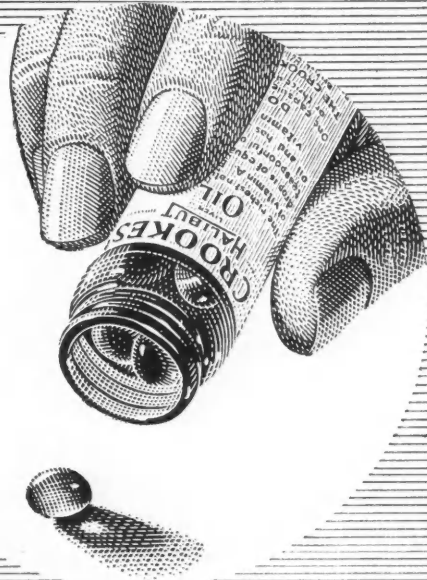
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